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THE INDEX TO PERIODICALS,

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

VOL. II.

JANUARY, 1886.

No. 1.

C: A. CUTTER, *Editor.*

THE success of the New York Library Club has been a pleasant surprise. Some sixty residents of New York or vicinity are already enrolled, and each of the two meetings has been attended by thirty or more people. The meetings have been interesting, and a good deal of useful co-operative work is already well under way. The only parallel hitherto has been the monthly Council meetings of the L. A. U. K. in London, which are virtually a London Library Club, but there seems no reason why the New York example should not be successfully followed in Boston, Chicago, and other library centres.

THE proposed free public library for New York is naturally the topic of interest in library circles. The discussion at the New York Library Club developed a general *consensus* of opinion that a true *people's library* would best consist of a number of small libraries in the most crowded parts of the city, extending the good work which the Free Circulating Library is already doing by private enterprise. On the other hand—and especially if these cannot be had and the other can—a great *book-cathedral*, to which all are welcomed, is a good in itself, a binding link between rich and poor, and from it a branch-system would almost certainly develop. The prospect of a free public library system in New York, in any shape, is one to gladden librarians.

GOVERNMENT publications, hitherto a sealed book, are beginning to have the attention they deserve. The Descriptive Catalogue of Mr. Poore, reviewed in this number, will be an *open sesame* to what have hitherto been inaccessible catacombs, despite all the imperfections it exhibits and acknowledges, and the list in the "American Catalogue" and Mr. Hickox's "Monthly Catalogue" supplement it very nearly to date. The reports on this subject at the Lake George Conference (now reprinted in a separate pamphlet) prepare librarians to welcome the Hoar and Singleton bills reforming the methods of

publication and distribution, which we make no apology for giving nearly in full elsewhere. We shall hope to discuss the Singleton plan in some detail in next month's JOURNAL.

WE were glad to print Mr. Schwartz's article in our last number. It brings into view certain desirable qualities in a classification. His argument will show the merits of his classification, which has been, perhaps, unduly laughed at. He does not, we think, prove his to be the only good scheme. All the schemes now before the American public have merit; all help the librarian, some a little more in one way, some a little more in another, and each has its own drawbacks. The question for each of us to determine is, which kind of help we want most, and which drawback he can best put up with. The "out" of Mr. Schwartz's scheme is his arrangement of classes, which shocks the classifying instinct of every one who looks at it. The merit is that it is possible, if we can remember what name has been assigned to a subject, and know under what general head the subject goes, to work out for one's self its place in the classification. The drawback of Mr. Dewey's system is the long numbers which he is compelled to use for minute subdivision, and the unsatisfactory classification of some parts. Mr. Perkins's and Mr. Smith's classes will not suit every one, and Mr. Smith's notation has some objectionable features. Mr. Cutter's notation offends many persons. But the defect common to all but Mr. Schwartz's is that they are not automatic, they do not enable any one to work out *à priori* the place of a class in the scheme. Whether that feature of Mr. Schwartz's is of much value, we have serious doubts. We do not believe that it will be found to be any easier, when one has forgotten the place of a class, to translate the name into numbers by his table, than it is to look in an alphabetical index and find the word and its class number. The index has one great superiority—one will find there all the synonymous names of one's subject in their proper places; whereas in using Mr. Schwartz's scheme, one has to recollect exactly the word which he has used; otherwise the key gives no assistance.

POORE'S CATALOGUE OF GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

By R. R. BOWKER.

THE long-expected "Descriptive Catalogue of the Government Publications of the United States, September 5, 1774—March 4, 1881, compiled, by order of Congress, by Ben: Perley Poore, Clerk of Printing Records," was issued last month (December, 1885) by the Government Printing Office, Washington, in a square quarto of iv + 1392 pages. It is in two divisions, a two-column chronological list of titles, covering 1241 pages, and including over 60,000 entries; and a three-column (subject) index, covering 148 pages and including over 40,000 references, the great majority of which are to individual names. The book is well made, and is fittingly bound in red half-skiver, paper sides. With all its imperfections, it is a great boon, and is another "monumental work."

Mr. Poore's two-page preface, dated June 1, 1885, is a brief history of the enterprise and a frank confession of the imperfection of the result. The first proposal of such a catalogue was made in 1845. No action was taken until 1881, March 24, when Senator Cockrell introduced a resolution directing the Departments and the Secretary of the Senate to report "complete lists" of the issues of the Departments and of Congress. The results were funny: the War Department, for instance, frankly replied that it had no information on which to base such a list. At the next session Senator Cockrell procured the passage of a bill to provide for the present catalogue, under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing, which was approved July 27, 1882. As Mr. Poore observes, it was a Christopher Columbus piece of exploration which the committee had before them. Unfortunately, they started with two pilots instead of one, and two cataloguers, working independently, amassed a great quantity of titles under the simple plan of recording title, author, date, where book was to be found, and brief abstract of contents. On March 1, 1883, Mr. Poore was put in charge of the work, and fourteen assistants from the several departments were named to assist him. Not one of them had any experience in cataloguing, nor was Mr. Poore himself a trained bibliographer. They found and catalogued 63,063 items, many of them duplicate or *variorum* editions issued by both Houses of Congress; it was

found impracticable to do otherwise than to dump in both entries, and there is probably some duplication also of titles reported from more than one department library. With the "abstracts of contents" the material was found to be too copious; these were therefore reduced to the minimum, but the catalogue was again extended by adding "publications of public interest purchased by the United States for use or distribution." In addition to the Washington libraries, much use was made of the Boston Public Library Collection of pub. docs., which is one of the best, and by all means the best-catalogued, in the country, and of some private collections. The work, exclusive of intervals, occupied, it is stated, about two years; its cost is not given. It is understood that the appropriations have exceeded \$40,000, in addition to cost of printing.

The catalogue begins with the "Abridgment of Laws in the American Plantations" (London, 1704), in the Law Library of Congress; it continues with the Writings of Washington, the Works of Hamilton, Jefferson, and Adams, the Madison papers, the American Archives, and the Journals of the Continental Congress; and the last entry is the "Statement of Appropriations and New Offices," March 3, 1881. The order is strictly chronological, year-entries prefacing day-entries, except that such entries as "Statements of the Tariffs," 1789-1833, are put in the earliest year, as "from 1789." The entries up to 1800 are within 42 pages; those up to 1850 occupy 535 more; from 1850 to March 3, 1881, requires 664 pages, of which the last complete year (1880) takes 62 pages. The titles are brief, but size and number of pages are given. The bureau of publication or place where the book may be found, is noted in each case. A descriptive note, averaging two lines, supplements each title; these notes are often very valuable, often giving, in the case of committee reports, the gist of the entire document, and in composite volumes a list of contents. The student of political reform can get a deal of light from this catalogue as to waste of Government time and money, *vide* the 279 p. majority report and 279 p. minority report (p. 1241) on an anonymous letter sent to Congressman Springer.

The key to this enormous heap of material is, of course, to be found in the index, in which a bibliographer of critical acumen could probably drive a horse and cart through every page. But any one who has ever been lost in the labyrinth of Government publications will be grateful for what he gets, and in this index he gets a great deal. To take two or three examples: There are thirteen entries under Library of Congress, with perhaps a hundred page-references, but no reference from Congress or Congressional to Library; the 1876 Report on Public Libraries is entered under Public, but not under Libraries, and, by the way, the note on this work on p. 1051 is very inadequate, and as to Part II. (Cutter's rules) absolutely incorrect. There are three entries and 24 page-references under Copyright, none under International copyright. This lack of sub- or cross-references or of duplicate entries is, of course, bothersome. On some subjects sub-references are given, as from Revenue to Duties on Imports, with about thirty references. Internal-revenue taxes (10), Tariff (400), and Taxation (50); but even here cross-references are sometimes given and sometimes not. Trained help would have bettered this index vastly, but as it is, it is of such very great service that to criticise seems hypercritical, in view of the enormous difficulties of the work achieved.

The act provided for the printing of 6600, of which 1000 were to be bound in full sheep, and 5600 in half leather like the *Congressional record*. Of these 60 were apportioned to the Library of Congress (50 for foreign exchanges); 1000 for the "reserved" or Congressional document sets, of which one copy is delivered to each State and Territorial library, and to other institutions (libraries, colleges, literary and historical societies) designated as depositories according to the provisions of the Revised Statutes; 818 copies "to be delivered to the Secretary of the Interior for distribution to such libraries, not depositories of public documents, as shall be named for this purpose by each Senator, Repre-

sentative, and Delegate in Congress." Besides these, provision was made for 500 copies half-bound in leather for sale at ten per centum advance on cost price, which may be had by sending a money-order for \$1.90 (payable to Mr. Cadet Taylor, Chief Clerk) to the Public Printer, Washington, who will send the book by registered mail, without extra charge. Only 100 of these copies were taken up in advance. Stereotype plates were made, and a second printing will be ordered by Congress if there is sufficient demand. The recall, by the Public Printer, of an insignificant number of unbound copies, which were sent out by mistake, seems to have led to an erroneous belief that libraries would not be able to get this work freely. As will be seen above, extra provision has been made for distribution among libraries.

Since this work ends with March 3, 1881, a word in regard to later endeavors to catalogue Government publications may be added. The appendix on United States Government Publications in the new American Catalogue overlaps Poore's list, commencing January 1, 1881, and gives publications to June 30, 1884. This list was purposely planned to supplement Poore's Catalogue in quite another way, by affording a cue to the relations of the several Departments and Bureaus with each other, in respect to publications, and to the several regular series of Government publications. The Poore Catalogue gives no indication whatever of these matters, but the American Catalogue arrangement will serve to give a clue to the years preceding as well as succeeding 1881. Mr. Hickox began his Monthly Catalogue of Government Publications with 1885, so that there is a gap of six months uncovered, except by the irregular sales catalogues of James Anglim & Co., Washington. The card catalogue of the Boston Public Library, kept in a separate case in Bates Hall, but accessible by request, is by far the best index to Government publications anywhere accessible, the card catalogue of the Library of Congress being phenomenally incomplete.

LIBRARY CO-OPERATION AND THE INDEX TO PERIODICALS.

BY MELVIL DEWEY.

My attention has been called several times within a year to the singular lack of business judgment among certain members of the profession, who seem not to understand that special publications required by a very limited number really cost more than the *Franklin Square*

issues of an equal number of pages. They make ridiculous comparisons of paper and type, and assume that the higher price means unreasonable profits to some one. A single case illustrates: I induced a publisher to bring out a little pamphlet much needed by a few people. He

fixed the price at less than one half actual cost, not counting time and labor, because unwilling to charge more for so small a thing. One of the first copies sold was by mail to a well-known member of the A. L. A., who returned it with an indignant note at the extortionate price. The note was sent me as a sample of the encouragement offered by some librarians to publishers who wish to help the profession by printing matter greatly needed.

I wanted recently a copy of some matter in the Harvard Library, and had it made at a cost of about \$25, and every one thought the price very moderate; but had any publisher been foolish enough to put that matter in type, hoping to sell five or ten copies, and offered the printed copy at \$10, I fear that nine tenths of the librarians, who of all men, except publishers, ought to know better, would have thought it a disreputable scheme for making money out of the libraries who must buy it so or not at all.

The lack of reason and thought has done some of our best enterprises much harm and has caused some of us who understand the facts no little mortification. It emphasizes the need in the country of publication societies which shall bring out these things that cannot pay at any reasonable price. But for our common reputation among intelligent publishers, I beg that we shall be reasonable and willing to pay at least the cost of printing such things as we wish to use.

This Co-operative Index is a good case in point. Let every library consider itself in honor bound to count the cost of making whatever substitute it would need if this were given up, and then agree to give some portion of its proved value toward paying the printer.

It hardly seems credible that intelligent librarians and trustees could be so blind to their own interests as to risk the suspension of this Index, and yet the publisher, after paying deficiencies in printers' bills till it ceases to be a virtue, has sent us a circular asking if it must be given up for want of money enough to print it after the editor and contributors have given their services.

The circular came to my committee at the worst possible time, at the meeting where we found ourselves with funds for books exhausted, and compelled to make a special effort to raise money. But we looked into the matter, and decided that, if the Index were given up it would cost us not less than \$300 to pay a cataloguer for making what we should want to take its place, and we

should then have a less complete record in manuscript instead of the printed copies. In spite of the pressure upon us we could not respectably offer less than \$20 per year for our copies or as our contribution toward printers' bills, and I sent a check for that amount, with the assurance that we should continue it till the Index was made self-supporting. This end will be reached at once if the better class libraries will pay a small fraction of what it saves them. If this cannot be done, we have small hopes of making any substantial progress in library co-operation.

The office of the LIBRARY JOURNAL has proved to us for ten years back that it is ready to work hard for our interests, and often to help us pay our own bills; but there is a limit, and just at the time when we have agreed to try the long-talked-of printed cards for catalogues, and are asking its co-operation, we should show a disposition to be just—we are not asked to be generous.

I have written this note without the knowledge or consent of the publisher of the JOURNAL, but I know that Mr. Bowker and Mr. Leypoldt before him have sunk a good deal of money in keeping up our library publications, beside much work that would have yielded large returns if given to other business. Under such circumstances it is not creditable for us to sit indifferently by and allow them to bear our burdens till they are no longer able, and then to give up our best co-operative plans, simply because so many of us either don't think about it at all or else wish to let others do all the work, pay all the bills, and then let us share equally in all the benefits.

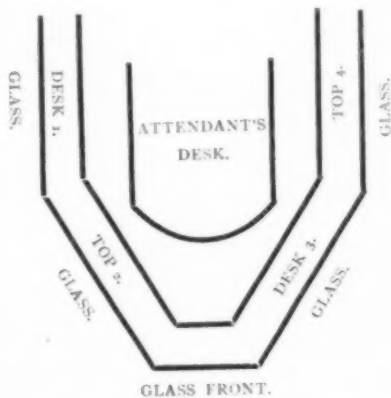
That the publisher has hesitated to state this matter fully to us is double reason why we should state it to ourselves. I appeal to the intelligent and reasonable librarians who really wish to see our profession elevated to a higher rank, our methods improved, our expenses reduced by co-operation, while our usefulness steadily increases, to stand by the men who have done for us in the past, and will continue to do, unless we blindly force them out of our service by a penny-wise policy that enables us to sponge the benefits this year, but cuts us off from getting them at any price hereafter.

We have not yet attained to the doctrine that the laborer is worthy of his hire, but are striving for that lower plane, where we preach that the laborer who works for nothing is worthy of having his actual expenses paid by those who reap the benefits of his services.

THE NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE CARD CATALOGUE.

By W. J. HAGGERSTON, LIBRARIAN.

THE cabinet in which the Card Catalogue is arranged is fixed in the centre of the Reference Library, immediately opposite to the entrance door, and is so arranged as to serve the fourfold purpose of, 1st, storage for large folio volumes in handsome bindings, which are inserted and withdrawn from the inside and protected in the front by plate glass; 2d, For the Card Catalogue, in double rows of drawers immediately above the folio books, and at such a height from the floor as to be easy of reference, and to prevent unnecessary stooping on the part of persons consulting the cards. 3d. The top is used as a desk counter for readers filling up their reader's tickets. 4th. The whole forms an inquiry office, the librarian's desk being placed inside. The shape at present is five-sided, thus:



Only Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 have catalogue drawers, each being provided with 4 drawers, 16 drawers in all, and the drawers are made of a size to take 3000 cards each, in 4 divisions of 1000 each. The cabinet is made in sections (Nos. 1-4) of equal size, so that a new section can be added at any time, and when completed it will be provided with 8 sections, holding 32 drawers, or 128,000 separate cards.

The cards are fixed on brass stair rods $\frac{7}{16}$ of an inch in diameter, both ends of the several

compartments of each drawer being sloped at an angle of forty degrees, which allows the last card to be easily read and as easily handled.

I claim for my card three advantages:

1st. *The color*, buff, is much to be preferred to white, as it does not soil quickly, and this is a great advantage in a public library, where the cards are in constant use.

2d. *Durability*. Our card is linen faced, which gives it an immeasurable advantage over the ordinary plain card, which soon frays out, and cuts readily at the hole with continual friction with the brass rod.

3d. *Cheapness*. The lowest price I could get the American card from Messrs. Trübner was 20s. per 1000. The cards we use are made to our order by a local firm (Messrs. Andrew Reid & Co., of this city) and supplied at 9s. 3d. per 1000.

Our cards (the major portion) have now been in use 14 months, and not one single card has in any way required renewal, and we find from daily experience that once our readers understand the system, they prefer the Card Catalogue to either printed catalogues, which are perforce always getting out of date, or the manuscript Slip Catalogue, which is bulky and unwieldy.

P. S.—Of course I should have preferred that the drawers had been single, and not one above the other, so that a larger number of persons could have consulted the catalogue at one and the same time, but that would have required a cabinet twice the size.

[We have inserted this note in illustration of the Committee of Newcastle-upon-Tyne P. L. (LIB. JNL., 10: 381) that "Mr. Haggerston had made a distinct advance upon anything that had previously been accomplished in a card catalogue." There is, however, nothing new to Americans in the Newcastle Card Catalogue, except the color of the cards, which appears to us of very doubtful utility. It amounts to making all one's cards less legible at first because any of them are likely to get less legible by use. We are astonished at the price of his cards. We have never paid over 10s., even when paper was at its highest, and for years the price of the best cards has been from 4s. 6d. to 5s. 3d. —[ED. LIB. JNL.]

NOTES ON MR. SCHWARTZ'S CLASSIFICATION AND NOTATION.

MR. SCHWARTZ, in the explanation of his classification and notation,* implies rather than states two principles to which I cannot assent. One of them — that there must never be two classes on one shelf, seems to me without any foundation; the question is a purely practical one, and there is no practical inconvenience in that arrangement. Another — that there must be the same number of books in each class, is equally invalid. Indeed, it is impossible to carry it out. His own class Fiction is certainly larger than his class Engineering, and so is each of the 10 parts into which he divides Fiction. In his class Wines and liquors I have perhaps 3 books; in his class Carpentry, Building and Architecture I have nearer 3000. Useful Arts is one class, Industrial receipts is another. The first would have a hundred times as many books as the second. The classes American biography, British biography, French biography, have no more space assigned each than the class Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese biography; they would outstrip it in the number of volumes ten to one; they would outstrip Slavonic biography a hundred to one. It would be easy to multiply instances. And even if one could divide the books now in a library equally, the next 10 years may entirely overthrow the proportion. You might as well divide property equally. In fact, the best and most *practically convenient* basis of division is not equal number of books, but evident distinctness of subject. If a subject is definite and not confoundable with any other subject, no matter if there is *now* only one book on it in the library, no matter if there will never be more than one, we want to be able to go to that book at once and not to be obliged to pick it out from a number of books on other subjects. Thus, every man whose life has been written is a separate subject, no matter whether there is one life of him, or fifty. We want the one as well as the fifty separated from the lives of everybody else. Of course this principle, like every other, when put into practice has its limitations. It is founded on utility, and it may happen that in some cases a greater utility will come from its breach than from its observance; but it is nevertheless true

that in the main, minute classification is the most convenient.*

I must also protest against Mr. Schwartz's assertion that, "No plan has yet been devised that will provide for the strict alphabetical arrangement of individual books in one series, and those that even approximate to it are obliged to use a cumbrous and complex system of notation." The notation in use at the Boston Athenæum provides for the exact alphabetical arrangement of the single novels of the most voluminous authors, as George Eliot, George Sand, Alexander Dumas, and Walter Scott; I do not consider it complex, and I do not find it cumbrous.

C: A. CUTTER.

I should like to call attention to the fact that my report on classification, presented at the Library Conference last fall, having been written before Mr. Schwartz's final explanations of his scheme were published, was incorrect in speaking of his system as one which permitted of only a very imperfect alphabetical arrangement within the sections. His last paper, published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for November, shows that he provides for a tolerably complete alphabetization of authors and titles on the principle of translating, by means of a table, given letter combinations by given figures.

The point is also made clearer that this is practically a fixed location system, and that it was on this account that Mr. Schwartz wished to make his classes of as nearly equal extent as might be, so that throughout the library each class might occupy the same number of shelves. If it were possible to plan ahead successfully for a library, or even for one's own library, it would be highly desirable; but no one can foresee in what ways a library is to increase; it has a perverse way of growing in unexpected directions, new subjects take on an unlooked-for importance, and the different departments bear very different relations to one another as time goes on. The attempt meets with additional difficulties, if we apply a classification which is the result of experience at one library to another li-

* I have just received a note from a theological scholar, in which, speaking of this very matter of thorough classification, he says of the Boston Athenæum: "I have gotten more satisfaction in less time there than almost anywhere, and I have used a good many libraries."

* (L. JNL., 10: 371-5.)

brary which has grown up under different conditions. If, for instance, I were to try to arrange the Harvard College Library on Mr. Schwartz's plan I should certainly find as great differences between divisions meant to be equal as in any other classifications; and, judging from

my own experience here, I should be surprised to learn that in any library a classification laid out at the beginning with divisions of equal extent maintained anything like an approximate equality after incorporating the additions of fifteen or twenty years.

W: C. LANE.

SIZE NOTATION: A REPLY.

By J. SCHWARTZ.

1. THE instances given of American libraries that are using the Q. O. D. system do not disprove what I said. I merely remarked that I did not *know* of any others but those I cited, and I limited my remarks to *printed* catalogues. Besides, the value of a system is not to be judged by the quantity of users, but rather by their weight. The really representative libraries that are using the Q. O. D. system are, I think, in the minority. To the non-users must be added (1) the English and foreign libraries, and (2) the publishers. If we take into the account the whole number of users of size symbols, the charge remains true that only a small minority are in favor of the Q. O. D. system because there is nothing better offered. I trust that the libraries that are cited as using the system in their printed lists, and who have neglected to send me copies, will remedy this defect in future, so that I may be able to make correct statements if I have occasion to refer to them again.

2. My reference to the metric system, as comparatively unknown, meant unknown in England and the United States, as might have been inferred by the words preceding it in the same paragraph. I shall be satisfied if English-speaking countries agree to adopt my plan. If it is a success, and the effete despotisms choose to fall in line, there is nothing to hinder it. It can be adapted to the metric system; but as the inch measure proceeds by *eights* and the metric by *tens* the translation of the scheme into the latter system will result in irregular fractions. I meant no disrespect to the metric system, which is, no doubt, an excellent one, otherwise 30 nations would not have agreed to adopt it. I shall try to learn it when it is universal in this country. Meanwhile I prefer to recommend a size notation that does not require of Americans and Englishmen a special education, to understand what it means. I know what 8 inches means, but

35 centimetres conveys to me no idea whatever.

3. It is an error to say that my system uses a symbol for the fold to express the size. That the symbol is so used, even in the Q. O. D. system, is the very reason why I propose a new system, in which the terms 16°, 12°, 8°, etc., are invested with a new meaning that removes this contradiction. These terms with me mean *not* sixteenmo, duodecimo, and octavo, but 8th, 12th, and 16th.

4. Mr. Bowker's idea of sticking to a good thing is based on right principles, but there is a fallacy underlying his argument—viz., that "Whatever *is* is right." If we are not to invent something better simply because a certain system is in a fair way of becoming universal, then the Q. O. D. system is itself a violation of the rule. It proposes to use a new set of symbols in place of those everybody was agreed in "sticking" to before its invention. It is, of course, an open question whether my system *is* an improvement, but that is a subject for argument, and cannot be determined by an *ex cathedra* condemnation based on the supposition that the Q. O. D. system—itsself an innovation—is the best that can be devised. For some of the supposed "complication" that Mr. Bowker thinks he finds in my system he must blame his proof-readers. The conventional sizes 4", 8", etc., were marked in my copy to be printed in heavy type in the table, and were so corrected in the proof. The failure of the printer to follow my directions makes that part of the article that refers to the heavy type unintelligible. The whole point of my system is simply this: For ordinary purposes use the conventional symbols, and for cases where extreme accuracy is desirable consider these symbols as parts of a progressive series of 64 numbers, each of which designates a particular height in inches from the elephant folio down to the two-inch high 64°.

BOOKS AND THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.*

BY HON. JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

A FEW years ago my friend, Mr. Alexander Ireland, published a very interesting volume which he called 'The booklover's enchiridion,' the handbook, that is to say, of those who love books. It was made up of extracts from the writings of a great variety of distinguished men, ancient and modern, in praise of books. It was a chorus of many voices in many tongues, a hymn of gratitude and praise, full of such piety and fervor as can be paralleled only in songs dedicated to the supreme power, the supreme wisdom and the supreme love. Nay, there is a glow of enthusiasm and sincerity in it which is often painfully wanting in those other too commonly mechanical compositions. We feel at once that here it is out of the fulness of the heart, yes, and of the head, too, that the mouth speaketh. Here was none of that compulsory commonplace which is wont to characterize those 'testimonials of celebrated authors,' by means of which publishers sometimes strive to linger out the passages of a hopeless book toward its *requiescat* in oblivion. These utterances which Mr. Ireland has gathered lovingly together are stamped with that spontaneity which is the mint mark of all sterling speech. It is true that they are mostly, as is only natural, the utterances of literary men, and there is a well-founded proverbial distrust of herring that bear only the brand of the packer, and not that of the sworn inspector. But to this objection a cynic might answer with the question, 'Are authors so prone, then, to praise the works of other people that we are to doubt them when they do it unasked?' Perhaps the wisest thing I could have done to-night would have been to put upon the stand some of the more weighty of this cloud of witnesses. But since your invitation implied that I should myself say something, I will endeavor to set before you a few of the commonplaces of the occasion, as they may be modified by passing through my own mind, or by having made themselves felt in my own experience.

"The greater part of Mr. Ireland's witnesses testify to the comfort and consolation they owe to books, to the refuge they have found in them from sorrow or misfortune, to their friendship, never estranged and outliving all others. This testimony they volunteered. Had they been asked, they would have borne evidence as willingly to the higher and more general uses of books in their service to the commonwealth, as well as to the individual man. Consider, for example, how a single page of Burke may emancipate the young student of politics from narrow views and merely contemporaneous judgments. Our English ancestors, with that common-sense which is one of the most useful,

though not one of the most engaging, properties of the race, made a rhyming proverb, which says that:

'When land and goods are gone and spent,
Then learning is most excellent';

and this is true, so far as it goes, though it goes, perhaps, hardly far enough. The law also calls only the earth and what is immovably attached to it *real* property, but I am of opinion that those only are real possessions which abide with a man after he has been stripped of those others falsely so called, and which alone save him from seeming and from being the miserable forked radish to which the bitter scorn of Lear degraded every child of Adam. The riches of scholarship, the benignities of literature, defy fortune and outlive calamity. They are beyond the reach of thief or moth or rust. As they cannot be inherited, so they cannot be alienated. But they may be shared, they may be distributed, and it is the object and office of a free public library to perform these beneficent functions.

"Books," says Wordsworth, 'are a real world,' and he was thinking, doubtless, of such books as are not merely the triumphs of pure intellect, however supreme, but of those in which intellect infused with the sense of beauty aims rather to produce delight than conviction, or, if conviction, then through intuition rather than formal logic, and, leaving what Donne wisely calls

'Unconcerning things matters of fact'

to science and the understanding, seeks to give ideal expression to those abiding realities of the spiritual world for which the outward and visible world serves at best but as the husk and symbol. Am I wrong in using the word *realities*?—wrong in insisting on the distinction between the real and the actual? in assuming for the ideal an existence as absolute and self-subsistent as that which appeals to our senses—nay, so often cheats them in the matter of fact? How very small a part of the world we truly live in is represented by what speaks to us through the senses when compared with that vast realm of the mind which is peopled by memory and imagination, and with such shining inhabitants! These walls, these faces, what are they in comparison with the countless images, the innumerable population which every one of us can summon up to the tiny show-box of the brain, in material breadth scarce a span, yet infinite as space and time? And in what, I pray, are those we gravely call historical characters, of which each new historian strains his neck to get a new and different view, in any sense more real than the personages of fiction? Do not serious and earnest men discuss Hamlet as they would Cromwell or Lincoln? Does

* Address at the opening of the Chelsea Library. (See p. 17 of this issue of *LIB. JNL.*.)

Cæsar, does Alaric, hold existence by any other or stronger tenure than the Christian of Bunyan or the Don Quixote of Cervantes or the Antigone of Sophocles? Is not the history which is luminous because of an indwelling and perennial truth to nature, because of that light which never was on land or sea, really *more* true, in the highest sense, than many a weary chronicle with names, date, and place in which 'an Amurath to Amurath succeeds'? Do we know as much of any authentic Danish prince as of Hamlet?

"But to come back a little nearer to Chelsea and the occasion that has called us together. The founders of New England, if sometimes, when they found it needful, an impracticable, were always a practical people. Their first care, no doubt, was for an adequate supply of powder, and they encouraged the manufacture of musket bullets by enacting that they should pass as currency at a farthing each—a coinage nearer to its nominal value, and not heavier than some with which we are familiar. Their second care was that 'good learning should not perish from among us,' and to this end they at once established the Latin School in Boston, and soon after the college at Cambridge. The nucleus of this was, as you all know, the bequest in money by John Harvard. Hardly less important, however, was the legacy of his library, a collection of good books, inconsiderable measured by the standard of to-day, but very considerable then as the possession of a private person. From that little acorn what an oak has sprung, and from its acorn again what a vocal forest, as old Howell would have called it—old Howell, whom I love to cite, because his name gave their title to the 'Essays of Elia,' and is borne with slight variation by one of the most delightful of modern authors! It was, in my judgment, those two foundations, more than anything else, which gave to New England character its bent and to Boston that literary supremacy which, I am told, she is in danger of losing, but which she will not lose till she and all the world lose Holmes.

"The opening of a free public library, then, is a most important event in the history of any town. A college training is an excellent thing; but, after all, the better part of every man's education is that which he gives himself, and it is for this that a good library should furnish the opportunity and the means. I have sometimes thought that our public schools undertook to teach too much, and that the older system, which taught merely the three R's, and taught them well, leaving natural selection to decide who should go farther, was the better. However this may be, all that is primarily needful in order to use a library is the ability to read. I say primarily, for there must also be the inclination, and, after that, some guidance in reading well. Formerly the duty of a librarian was considered too much that of a watchdog to keep people as much as possible away from the books, and to hand these over to his successor as little worn by use as he could. Librarians now, it is

pleasant to see, have a different notion of their trust, and are in the habit of preparing for the direction of the inexperienced lists of such books as they think best worth reading. Cataloging has also, thanks in great measure to American librarians, become a science, and catalogs, ceasing to be labyrinths without a clew, are furnished with finger-posts at every turn. Subject catalogs again save the beginner a vast deal of time and trouble, by supplying him for nothing with one at least of the results of thorough scholarship, the knowing where to look for what he wants. I do not mean by this that there is or can be any short-cut to learning, but that there may be, and is, such a short cut to information that will make learning more easily accessible.

"But have you ever rightly considered what the mere ability to read means? That it is the key that admits us to the whole world of thought and fancy and imagination; to the company of saint and sage, of the wisest and the wittiest at their wisest and wittiest moment? That it enables us to see with the keenest eyes, hear with the finest ears, and listen to the sweetest voices of all time? More than that, it annihilates time and space for us; it revives for us without a miracle the Age of Wonder, endowing us with the shoes of swiftness and the cap of darkness, so that we walk invisible like fern seed and witness unharmed the plague at Athens or Florence or London; accompanying Cæsar on his marches, or look in on Catiline in council with his fellow-conspirators, or Guy Fawkes in the cellar of St. Stephen's. We often hear of people who will descend to any servility, submit to any insult, for the sake of getting themselves or their children into what is euphemistically called good society. Did it ever occur to them that there is a select society of all the centuries to which they and theirs can be admitted for the asking—a society, too, which will not involve them in ruinous expense and still more ruinous waste of time and health and faculties?

"Southey tells us that, in his walk, one stormy day, he met an old woman, to whom, by way of greeting, he made the rather obvious remark that it was dreadful weather. She answered, philosophically, that, in her opinion, 'any weather was better than none!' I should be half inclined to say that any reading was better than none, allaying the crudeness of the statement by the Yankee proverb, which tells us that, though 'all deacons are good, there's odds in deacons.' Among books, certainly there is much variety of company, ranging from the best to the worst, from Plato to Zola, and the first lesson in reading well is that which teaches us to distinguish between literature and merely printed matter. The choice lies wholly with ourselves. We have the key put into our hands; shall we unlock the pantry or the oratory? There is a Wallachian legend which, like most of the figments of popular fancy, has a moral in it. One Bakála, a good-for-nothing kind of fellow in his way, having had the luck to offer a sacrifice especially well pleasing to God, is

taken up into heaven. He finds the Almighty sitting in something like the best room of a Wallachian peasant's cottage—there is always something profoundly pathetic in the homeliness of the popular imagination, forced, like the princess in the fairy tale, to weave its semblance of gold tissue out of straw. On being asked what reward he desires for the good service he has done, Bakála, who had always passionately longed to be the owner of a bagpipe, seeing a half wornout one lying among some rubbish in a corner of the room, begs eagerly that it may be bestowed to him. The Lord, with a smile of pity at the meanness of his choice, grants him his boon, and Bakála goes back to earth delighted with his prize. With an infinite possibility within his reach, with the choice of wisdom, of power, of beauty at his tongue's end, he asked according to his kind, and his sordid wish is answered with a gift as sordid. Yes, there is a choice in books as in friends, and the mind sinks or rises to the level of its habitual society, is subdued, as Shakespeare says of the dyer's hand, to what it works in. Cato's advice, *cum bonis ambula*, consort with the good, is quite as true if we extend it to books, for they, too, insensibly give away their own nature to the mind that converses with them. They either beckon upward or drag down. And it is certainly true that the material of thought reacts upon the thought itself. Shakespeare himself would have been commonplace had he been paddocked in a thinly shaven vocabulary, and Phidias, had he worked in wax, only a more inspired Mrs. Jarley. A man is known, says the proverb, by the company he keeps, and not only so, but made by it. Milton makes his fallen angels grow small to enter the infernal council room, but the soul, which God meant to be the spacious chamber where high thoughts and generous aspirations might commune together, shrinks and narrows itself to the measure of the meaner company that is wont to gather there, hatching conspiracies against our better selves. We are apt to wonder at the scholarship of the men of three centuries ago and at a certain dignity of phrase that characterizes them. They were scholars because they did not read so many things as we. They had fewer books, but these were of the best. Their speech was noble, because they lunched with Plutarch and supped with Plato. We spend as much time over print as they did, but instead of communing with the choice thoughts of choice spirits, and unconsciously acquiring the grand manner of that supreme society, we diligently inform ourselves and cover the continent with a network of speaking wires to inform us of such inspiring facts as that a horse belonging to Mr. Smith ran away on Wednesday, seriously damaging a valuable carryall; that a son of Mr. Brown swallowed a hickorynut on Thursday; and that a gravel bank caved in and buried Mr. Robinson alive on Friday. Alas! it is we ourselves that are getting buried alive under this avalanche of earthy impertinences. It is we who, while we might each in his humble way be helping our

fellows into the right path, or adding one block to the climbing spire of a fine soul, are willing to become mere sponges saturated from the stagnant goosepond of village gossip.

"One is sometimes asked by young people to recommend a course of reading. My advice would be that they should confine themselves to the supreme books in whatever literature, or still better to choose some one great author, and make themselves thoroughly familiar with him. For, as all roads lead to Rome, so do they likewise lead away from it, and you will find that, in order to understand perfectly and weigh exactly any vital piece of literature, you will be gradually and pleasantly persuaded to excursions and explorations of which you little dreamed when you began, and will find yourselves scholars before you are aware. For remember that there is nothing less profitable than scholarship for the mere sake of scholarship, nor anything more wearisome in the attainment. But the moment you have a definite aim attention is quickened, the mother of memory, and all that you acquire groups and arranges itself in an order that is lucid, because everywhere and always it is in intelligent relation to a central object of constant and growing interest. This method also forces upon us the necessity of thinking, which is, after all, the highest result of all education. For what we want is not learning, but knowledge—that is, the power to make learning answer its true end as a quickener of intelligence and a widener of our intellectual sympathies. I do not mean to say that every one is fitted by nature or inclination for a definite course of study, or indeed for serious study in any sense. I am quite willing that these should 'browse in a library,' as Dr. Johnson called it, to their hearts' content. It is, perhaps, the only way in which time may be profitably wasted. But desultory reading will not make a 'full man,' as Bacon understood it, of one who has not Johnson's memory, his power of assimilation, and, above all, his comprehensive view of the relations of things. 'Read not,' says Lord Bacon, in his 'Essay of Studies,' 'to contradict and confute; nor to believe and take for granted; nor to find talk and discourse; but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested—that is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not curiously (carefully), and some few to be read wholly and with diligence and attention. Some books also may be read by deputy.' This is weighty and well said, and I would call your attention especially to the wise words with which the passage closes.

"I have been speaking of such books as should be chosen for profitable reading. A public library, of course, must be far wider in its scope. It should contain something for all tastes, as well as the material for a thorough grounding in all branches of knowledge. It should be rich in books of reference, in encyclopedias, where one may learn without cost of research what things are generally known. For it is far more useful

to know these than to know those that are *not* generally known. Not to know them is the defect of those half trained and therefore hasty men who find a mare's nest on every branch of the tree of knowledge. A library should contain ample stores of history, which, if it do not always deserve the pompous title which Bolingbroke gave it, of philosophy teaching by example, certainly teaches many things profitable for us to know and lay to heart; teaches among other things how much of the present is still held in mortmain by the past; teaches that, if there be no controlling purpose, there is, at least, a sternly logical sequence in human affairs, and that chance has but a trifling dominion over them; teaches why things are and must be so and not otherwise; teaches, perhaps, more than anything else, the value of personal character as a chief factor in what used to be called destiny, for that cause is strong which has not a multitude but one strong man behind it. History is indeed mainly the biography of a few imperial men, and forces home upon us the useful lesson how infinitesimally important our own private affairs are to the universe in general. History is clarified experience, and yet how little do men profit by it—nay, how should we expect it of those who so seldom are taught anything by their own! Delusions, especially economical delusions, seem the only things that have any chance of an earthly immortality. I would have plenty of biography. It is no insignificant fact that eminent men have always loved their Plutarch, since example, whether for emulation or avoidance, is never so poignant as when presented to us in a striking personality. Autobiographies are also instructive reading to the student of human nature, though generally written by men who were more interesting to themselves than to their fellow-men. I have been told that Emerson and George Eliot agreed in thinking Rousseau's 'Confessions' the most interesting book they had ever read.

"A public library should also have many and full shelves of political economy, for the dismal science, as Carlyle called it, if it prove nothing else, will go far toward proving that theory is the bird in the bush, though she sing more sweetly than the nightingale, and that the millennium will not hasten its coming in deference to the most convincing string of resolutions that were ever unanimously adopted in public meeting. It likewise induces in us a profound distrust of social panaceas.

"I would have a public library abundant in translations of the best books in all languages; for though no work of genius can be adequately translated, because every word of it is permeated with what Milton calls 'the precious life blood of a master spirit,' which cannot be transfused into the veins of the best translation, yet some acquaintance with foreign and ancient literatures has the liberalizing effect of foreign travel. He who travels by translation travels more hastily and superficially, but brings home something that is worth having, nevertheless. Translations properly used, by shortening the

labor of acquisition, add as many years to our lives as they subtract from the processes of our education.

"In such a library the sciences should be fully represented, that men may at least learn to know in what a marvellous museum they live, what a wonder worker is giving them an exhibition daily for nothing. Nor let art be forgotten in all its many forms, not as the antithesis of science, but as her elder or fairer sister, whom we love all the more that her usefulness cannot be demonstrated in dollars and cents. I should be thankful if every day laborer among us could have his mind illumined, as those of Athens and of Florence had, with some image of what is best in architecture, painting and sculpture to train his crude perceptions and perhaps call out latent faculties. I should like to see the works of Ruskin within the reach of every artisan among us. For I hope some day that the delicacy of touch and accuracy of eye that have made our mechanics in some departments the best in the world may give us the same supremacy in works of wider range and more purely ideal scope.

"Voyages and travels I would also have, good store, especially the earlier, when the world was fresh and unhackneyed and men saw things invisible to the modern eye. They are fast sailing ships to wait away from present trouble to the Fortunate Isles.

"To wash down the dryer morsels that every library must necessarily offer at its board, let there be plenty of imaginative literature, and let its range be not too narrow to stretch from Dante to the elder Dumas. The world of the imagination is not the world of abstraction and nonentity, as some conceive, but a world formed out of chaos by the sense of the beauty that is in man and the earth on which he dwells. It is the realm of might be, our heaven of refuge from the shortcomings and disillusion of life. It is, to quote Spenser, who knew it well,

'The world's sweet inn from care and wearisome turmoil.'

Do we believe, then, that God gave us in mockery this splendid faculty of sympathy with things that are a joy forever? For my part, I believe that the love and study of works of imagination is of practical utility in a country so profoundly material in its leading tendencies as ours. The hunger after purely intellectual delights, the content with ideal possessions, cannot but be good for us in maintaining a wholesome balance of the character and of the faculties. I for one shall never be persuaded that Shakespeare left a less useful legacy to his countrymen than Watt. We hold all the deepest, all the highest satisfactions of life as tenants of imagination. Nature will keep up the supply of what are called hard-headed people without our help, and, if it come to that, there are other as good uses for heads as at the end of battering rams.

"I know that there are many excellent people who object to the reading of novels as a waste of time, if as not otherwise harmful. But I think they are trying to outwit nature, who is sure to

prove cunninger than they. Look at children. One boy shall want a chest of tools and one a book, and of those who want books one shall ask for a botany, another for a romance. They will be sure to get what they want, and we are doing a grave wrong to their morals by driving them to do things on the sly, to steal that food which their constitution craves and which is wholesome for them, instead of having it freely and frankly given them as the wisest possible diet. If we cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, so neither can we hope to succeed with the opposite experiment. But we may spoil the silk for its legitimate uses. I can conceive of no healthier reading for a boy, or girl either, than Scott's novels or Cooper's, to speak only of the dead. I have found them very good reading at least for one young man, for one middle-aged man, and for one who is growing old. No, no; banish the Antiquary, banish Leather Stocking, and banish all the world! Let us not go about to make life duller than it is.

"But I must shut the doors of my imaginary library, or I shall never end. It is left for me to say a few words of fitting acknowledgment to Mr. Fitz for his judicious and generous gift. It is always a pleasure to me that I believe the custom of giving away money during their lifetime (and there is nothing harder for most men to part with, except prejudice) is more common with Americans than with any other people. It is a still greater pleasure to see that the favorite direction of their beneficence is toward the founding of colleges and libraries. My observation has led me to believe that there is no country in which wealth is so sensible of its obligations as our own. And, as most of our rich men have risen from the ranks, may we not fairly attribute this sympathy with their kind to the benign influence of democracy rightly understood? My dear and honored friend, George William Curtis, told me that he was sitting in front of the late Mr. Ezra Cornell in a convention, where one of the speakers made a Latin quotation. Mr. Cornell leaned forward and asked for a translation of it, which Mr. Curtis gave him. Mr. Cornell thanked him, and added: 'If I can help it, no young man shall grow up in New York hereafter without the chance, at least, of knowing what a Latin quotation means when he hears it.' This was the germ of Cornell University, and it found food for its roots in that sympathy and thoughtfulness for others of which I just spoke. This is the healthy side of that good nature which democracy tends to foster, and which is so often harmful when it has its root in indolence or indifference; especially harmful where our public affairs are concerned, and where it is easiest, because there we are giving away what belongs to other people. In this country it is as laudably easy to procure signatures to a subscription paper as it is shamefully so to obtain them for certificates of character and recommendations to office. And is not this public spirit a natural evolution from that frame of mind in which New England was colonized, and which found expression in these

grave words of Robinson and Brewster: 'We are knit together as a body in a most strict and sacred bond and covenant of the Lord, of the violation of which we make great conscience, and by virtue whereof we hold ourselves strictly tied to all care of each other's good, and of the whole.' Let us never forget the deep and solemn import of these words. The problem before us is to make a whole of our many discordant parts, many foreign elements, and I know of no way in which this can better be done than by providing a common system of education and a common door of access to the best books by which that education may be continued, broadened, and made fruitful. For it is certain that, whatever we do or leave undone, those discordant parts and foreign elements are to be, whether we will or no, members of that body which Robinson and Brewster had in mind, bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh, for good or ill.

"There is no way in which a man can build so secure and lasting a monument for himself as in a public library. Upon that he may confidently allow 'Resurgam' to be carved, for through his good deed he will rise again in the grateful remembrance and in the lifted and broadened minds and fortified characters of generation after generation. The pyramids may forget their builders, but memorials such as this have longer memories.

"Mr. Fitz has done his part in providing your library with a dwelling. It will be for the citizens of Chelsea to provide it with worthy habitants. So shall they, too, have a share in the noble eulogy of the ancient wise man: 'The teachers shall shine as the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever.'"

THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY IN CHICAGO.

By W. F. POOLE, LL.D.

From the Congregationalist.

THE magnificent legacy of \$3,000,000 for the establishment and support of a free public library, in the city of Chicago, became available by the death of Mrs. Julia Newberry, the widow of the testator, in Paris, on the 9th of December. This is the largest foundation for a free library ever made in this or any other country, and the establishment of such an institution is more a matter of national than of local importance. To scholars and lovers of choice books which are rarely seen in this country it will be cheering information to learn that the new institution with such large means is, by the conditions of the legacy, to be simply and strictly a library; and hence will be without the appendages of a picture gallery, an art school, a musical college, and courses of lectures, which were attached to Mr. George Peabody's donation to Baltimore, and which have so minimized the income of each department that neither the library nor any of the appendages have become, or can become, pre-

eminent, or anything more than of local interest. In expending the income, and such part of the principal as they may think proper, the trustees are authorized "to purchase and procure books, maps, and charts, and all such other articles and things as they may deem proper for a library, and for extending and increasing such library." The only other restrictive condition attached to the legacy is that the library shall be in that portion of the city known as the "North Division," or, in common parlance, the "North Side."

The testator wisely placed the organization and entire management of this great institution, as well as the distribution of his whole estate, in the hands of only two trustees, instead of a numerous board, among whom differences of opinion in its administration may arise. To these trustees he gave very large discretionary powers, among which was that of choosing their own successors. He was judicious, also, in selecting men for trustees who were eminently qualified for the duty, and in whom the public have entire confidence. The trustees he named in his will were Judge Mark Skinner and Mr. E. W. Blatchford. Judge Skinner, in 1874, being about to make a prolonged visit to Europe, resigned, and Mr. William H. Bradley was appointed to fill the vacancy. Although Mr. Newberry and his family were in their church relations Episcopalians, Judge Skinner is a Presbyterian, and Mr. Blatchford and Mr. Bradley are leading members of the New England (Congregational) Church, and perhaps the most efficient supporters of what may be called "New England thought" in the North-west. Mr. Blatchford is known to the readers of the *Congregationalist* as the Vice-President of the American Board of Foreign Missions, and a large contributor to its funds. The character of the trustees is a sure guarantee that the Newberry Library of Chicago will, under their management, serve the noblest ends.

Although established as a free public library, the new institution will have no official connection with, nor will it supplant the work or functions of, the Chicago Public Library. The latter is a municipal institution, with 115,000 volumes, and is supported by local taxation. Both are needed in a city which has now 700,000 inhabitants, and will soon have a million. The Public Library, now twelve years old, and with an annual income of \$70,000, will go on giving out books for home use, establishing branch libraries and meeting the wants of the people at large. The trustees of the Newberry Library have not yet announced their plans, and, indeed, since the death of Mrs. Newberry, have not had time to form them; yet there is a feeling on the part of the public that the library will meet the higher wants of scholars, literary and scientific students—of those from abroad as well as of those resident in the city. The possibilities as to what a \$3,000,000 fund may do in supplying the neglected wants of American scholarship will be an inspiration to every student in the land.

The Astor Library, as to its origin and purposes, is the one with which the Newberry

Library will naturally be compared; and the comparison will show the enormous disproportion in their financial resources. John Jacob Astor died in March, 1848, and by his will devoted \$400,000 to the foundation of the Astor Library—naming \$75,000 for the erection of a building, \$120,000 for the purchase of books, and \$25,000 for the purchase of a site. A permanent fund of \$180,000 remained after these expenditures, for the support of the library. In 1855 his son, Mr. William B. Astor, gave an adjoining lot of land, money for the erection of another building, and a collection of books, the whole of his expenditures amounting to \$300,000.* The foundation, therefore, of the Astor Library, not including interest, was \$700,000, against the \$3,000,000 fund of the Newberry Library.

Mr. Walter L. Newberry, the testator, came from Detroit, Mich., in 1834, when Chicago was a village having 3000 inhabitants. Three years later a city government was organized, and the first census then taken showed a population of 4170. Mr. Newberry brought with him some ready money, and invested it in 40 acres on the "North Side," which is now the choicest residence property in the city. The limits of the purchase, by modern bounds, are Chicago Avenue on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, Kinzie Street on the south (within one block of the river), and Franklin Street on the west. Much of this property, covered with expensive buildings and constantly rising in value, is still held by the trustees of the Newberry estate. Mr. Newberry died in November, 1868, leaving a widow, two young unmarried daughters, and an estate of several millions. His will provided for the widow an annuity in lieu of dower, and left the bulk of the estate to his daughters, and, if they had children, to their issue. If one daughter should die without issue, the other daughter was to take the whole estate. If both daughters died without issue, then, "immediately after the decease of my wife," his trustees were to divide the estate into two equal shares, "my said trustees being the sole judges of the equality and correctness of such division," and to distribute one share among the surviving descendants of his brothers and sisters, *per stirpes*, and not *per capita*. The other share was to be applied to the founding of a free public library, as already described. The elder daughter died in 1874, and the younger in 1876, both unmarried, and the contingency as to a public library took effect.

The widow, in lieu of the provision made for her in the will, elected to take her right of dower, and the trustees settled with her on this basis. She then went abroad, and resided in Paris and other parts of the Continent. Soon after the death of the younger daughter, the question was raised by the heirs in the courts as to the legal time for the distribution of the estate, and the interpretation of the clause in the will,

* Bureau of Education's "Report on Public Libraries," 1876, p. 937. A third building has since been erected, and the Astor family has made other gifts to the library.

"immediately after the decease of my wife." Did it mean the actual physical decease of the wife, or did it mean the termination of her legal and civil relations to the estate, to which the principle in law called "acceleration" would apply? In the lower courts a decision was given in favor of the latter view, which, if sustained, would have brought on the immediate distribution of the estate. An appeal being taken to the Supreme Court, the decision was reversed by a very close vote of the judges. A petition for a rehearing was filed, and the case was again tried, the best legal talent in the State being employed, and the court reaffirmed its former decision. The distribution was therefore postponed until the actual decease of Mrs. Newberry, which has now occurred.

The precise value of the estate will not be known until the appraisement now in progress is completed. Some very wild statements of its value have appeared in print, and for correcting these reports, one who is in a position to know its value has stated that his estimate is \$6,000,000.

THE NEW YORK CITY HALL LIBRARY.

From the New York Commercial advertiser.

THIS library originated in the attempt of a Frenchman, named Alexander Vattemare in 1842 to establish a foreign literary bureau or exchange which should be under control of the common council. He expected to collect numerous foreign volumes, and to make it the headquarters for literary men of all nations in passing through the city. The room, then much smaller, and now occupied by the library, was given to him. He began with his own very valuable library of several hundred volumes in French, but met with little success, and in two years the attempt at collecting a library was abandoned. His books, now valued at about \$40,000, remained in possession of the Board of Aldermen.

In the mean time a number of volumes containing the proceedings of the Board of Aldermen was rapidly increasing, while the clerk of the board found it impossible to attend to the numerous requests for information concerning its past transactions. It was then decided to turn the room occupied by Mr. Vattemare into a library which should contain the records of all matters pertaining to the commonalty of New York. This intention has been fulfilled, and the chronicler of this city's history may find ample material in the musty volumes on its shelves unattainable elsewhere. There are between four and five thousand volumes. Of these the more recent are in good condition, as are also those in French, which are rarely consulted. The library also contains volumes of the original manuscript of the early proceedings of the Board of Aldermen, together with such as have been printed since 1830. It also contains the laws of the State since 1785. These are but a few of the many valuable authorities to be found here. About forty volumes are added yearly—viz., two volumes containing the laws of the State, seven containing the proceedings of the

Board of Aldermen and about thirty from Congress.

When the great importance of this library is considered, as well as the fact that it is the only source from which much information concerning the past history of this city can be obtained, it would naturally be expected that it would be an object of great solicitude and care to those who have the city's affairs in charge. This, however, has not been the case. Formerly the librarian was appointed at a good salary to attend to comparatively few books, and these appear in many cases to have been abused. Pages have been torn out, and it is said that volumes have been stolen. The salary has been greatly reduced, and the librarian is chosen merely with political ends in view. Of late a stricter watch has been kept, and the volumes of recent date are in fair condition. The clerk of the Board of Aldermen is the real custodian of the books, and the librarian is merely an assistant. A new librarian is appointed every year, and in the last decade there has been only one instance in which the same man has held the office for two successive years. As the appointment of this officer lies with the Board of Aldermen, the object of these frequent changes is quite evident. The consequences are equally so. The inquirer enters the room seeking information which he believes such a library is likely to contain. He calls for a catalogue. There is none. He then describes what he wants, naturally expecting the librarian will know just where the books are kept; but that officer is very apt to know as little of their whereabouts as the inquirer himself. The salary of the office is not such as to attract men of great intelligence or high attainments; and, in any case, knowing that he is sure to be superseded at the end of the year, no one is likely to make any special effort to qualify himself as a guide to the ignorant.

Only one attempt has been made to prepare a catalogue of the library, but the librarian who began the work was superseded as usual after his year's service, and his successor was either too indolent to complete it or too strongly impressed with a sense of the frailty of his tenure of office to employ his time with no hope of reward. It may be remembered that Mr. R. H. Stoddard, the poet, when appointed librarian some years ago, was so discouraged by the disorganization and disorder of the library management that he resigned the office.

The Board of Aldermen appear to have no special interest in the library, as such, beyond the salaried office involved, and which is at its disposal. Indeed, some of the city fathers wish to do away with it, which perhaps accounts for some of the highly-colored reports of its mismanagement which have appeared from time to time.

Another abuse is that the room is not reserved as a library. A reporter was surprised, while sitting in the library, to notice the entrance of several Italians, among them a woman. Obviously their object was not historical research. In answer to a question a gentleman said: "Oh, it's some Italians going to be married. When a

couple apply, who, it is thought, would contaminate the mayor's office, they are brought in here. I have seen as many as six marriages in here in one day, all of that class."

Notwithstanding these unpleasant features, the library has a good many visitors, among whom ladies are often noticed. It is safe to infer that all come from sheer necessity.

THE CHELSEA LIBRARY.

From the Boston Evening record, Dec. 23.

THE new public library building in Chelsea was formally transferred to the city on the evening of December 22.

The Rev. Isaac P. Langworthy, Librarian of the Congregational Library, Boston, pronounced the invocation, with an unusually felicitous choice of words and ideas. This was followed by music, speaking, and an inspection of the new library building, after which some of the guests sat down to a pleasant lunch.

In presenting the new building to the city, Mr. Fitz traced the history of the public library of Chelsea from the first allusion to the subject in any of the city documents by the mayor in 1861, and the first gathering of books in a small room under the Old First Baptist Meeting House, at the corner of Broadway and Third Street, where they were collected as the property of the Young Men's Library Association (an organization formed for study and debate about the year 1848, and at a later period reorganized upon a broader basis as the Chelsea Library Association), down to last year. He continued:

"The number of volumes taken out during the last year was 74,000, and the number of persons now using the library is 4101. It is proper that mention should be made here of some of those whose interest in the library has manifested itself in contributions of money, books or service. The principal donations in funds were those of the Hon. Francis B. Fay, \$1000; G. H. Norman, Esq., \$600; the Hon. Frank B. Fay, trustee of citizens' fund, \$400; Chelsea high school scholars, \$112, and, in addition, various smaller sums from different individuals, duly credited and recorded. In books, the largest number of volumes came from the Chelsea Library Association—viz., 980. From the Winnisimmet Library Institute came 446 volumes. These were followed by liberal donations of valuable books from the Hon. Frank B. Fay, the Hon. S. Hooper, the Hon. Rufus S. Frost, the Hon. Leopold Morse, H. P. Bailey, Miss Ann Cary, Captain G. B. Hanover, C. A. Richardson, the Hon. T. Green, James Tent, Arthur Sibley, B. P. Shillaber, the Rev. Dr. Langworthy, estate of the Hon. Francis B. Fay. Besides the above named, the library has received many volumes from other contributors. . . . Of those who have contributed efficient service in this behalf, none were more conspicuous than the late Dr. G. W. Churchill, who entered most heartily into the work of organization. His death, in 1869, deprived the library of one of its truest friends and promoters. Dr. Churchill, and the late James P. Farley, who was also an earnest friend of the in-

stitution, were members of the first board of trustees, as was also the Hon. Mellen Chamberlain. To the latter, although he is not now a member of the board, the library is often indebted for valuable information and suggestions. Elbridge C. Donnell and J. Edmunds have been on the board from the beginning, in 1868, a term of seventeen years, while B. Phipps and the Hon. T. Green have each served fourteen years. C. C. Hutchinson has been a member of the board for eleven years."

After describing the new building and indicating the purposes to which the different rooms might be devoted, Mr. Fitz closed thus:

"Said John Bright, at the opening of the free public library at Birmingham in 1882, 'It is impossible to confer upon the young a greater blessing than to stimulate them to a firm belief that to them now, and during all their lives, it may be a priceless gain that they should associate themselves constantly with this library, and draw from it the books they like. It is a fountain of refreshment and instruction and wisdom. The young man who drinks at it shall still thirst, and thirsting for knowledge and still drinking, we may hope that he will grow to a greater mental and moral standard, more useful as a citizen, and more noble as a man.' These words of wisdom from one of our truest friends in Old England are applicable in our own time and locality. We make no mistake when we provide for our youth the most abundant opportunities for the cultivation of their intellectual faculties. And now, Mr. Mayor, this property is committed to your keeping, in the hope that you and your successors will care for it and preserve it in such condition as will always be creditable to our city. May these keys be used to unlock the doors and open them wide for the freest admission of the public, and may the library ever be cherished as one of our most beneficent institutions."

Mayor Endicott stepped forward and took the bunch of keys midst the applause of the company. In a few well-chosen sentences he accepted the trust imposed upon the city, and touched upon the manifold advantages it would afford to the people. He then presented Mr. James Russell Lowell as the orator of the occasion. Mr. Lowell was warmly greeted, and delivered the address given in full on page 10 of this number.

THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.

IN the Senate of the United States, January 14, 1886, Mr. Sewell presented the following letter from George Ticknor Curtis, on the proposed building for the Congressional Library, which was referred to the Select Committee on Additional Accommodations for the Library of Congress:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., December 12, 1885.

"Hon. William J. Sewell, Chairman of Committee on Library, Senate of the United States,

"DEAR SIR: I have thought, since the brief conversation I had with you on the subject of the Congressional Library, in which you invited

me to make any suggestions that might occur to me, that I could best make them in writing. My interest in this matter is that of every citizen of the United States, and it arises also out of the fact that in a small degree I have contributed something, both in and out of my profession, to the literature of the country.

"The subject of a new and appropriate building for the National Library divides itself into the following heads: The necessity for immediate action, the acquisition of a suitable site, the character of the building, and the internal arrangements, including separate provision for the general mass of books and for the copies of new publications, which are required by law to be deposited as evidence of copyright.

"In regard to the urgency for immediate action, it is not necessary to say much. There seems to be an almost unanimous conviction that Congress should at once take steps for the accomplishment of this most desirable object. Now that the President has in his annual message so forcibly stated the case, it is to be presumed that Congress will no longer postpone action. Whether its action should be in one law or in separate laws, it is manifest that the first step to be taken is the acquisition of a suitable site for the new building.

"Obstacles have heretofore arisen, or are supposed to have arisen, from the rival efforts of property owners to effect a sale of their property to the Government. All such difficulties or embarrassments, if they exist, are very easily obviated. Congress, by the exercise of the power of the eminent domain, can take any property in this District that it determines to be necessary for the use of the Government, making at the same time suitable provision for its valuation, and for payment of the amount found to be justly due. The best way to do this would be to appoint a commission with authority to select a site, and to value the property proposed to be taken. The members of this commission should be persons who are not property owners in the District of Columbia, and they should be required to give some guarantee that they will not become property owners within a certain distance from the new building before the expiration of a certain time after the Government has acquired the site for the new library. There is an obvious reason for not having the valuation made by a jury drawn from the District, or by commissioners who are property owners in the city of Washington.

"The site having been selected and paid for, and the title to the land acquired, the determination of the character of the building and its internal arrangements should be, I respectfully suggest, vested in a separate commission, whose functions should continue until the work is completed and the books have been transferred to the new building. When this has been done, the care of the building would appropriately pass into the hands of whatever public officer has charge of the other public buildings. It would manifestly be inconvenient to have the work of erecting the building and determining its internal arrangements kept in the hands of Congress, or of committees of Congress, because membership in

that body is continually changing, and this is to be a work of several years. A permanent commission, with suitable provision for filling vacancies, would be far the most advantageous.

"In regard to the character of the building, I have some ideas which may not be in accordance with the wishes or tastes of those who are to legislate on this important subject, but I will venture to express them. I would not, if I could govern this matter, aim for one moment at making the new Library a distinguished architectural ornament to this city. No private individual who owned a considerable library and meant to increase it so as to make it commensurate with all the uses of a great library, and then to throw it open to the public, would be willing to incur the risk of sacrificing its internal arrangements to external magnificence or imposing architectural effects, whatever his pecuniary resources might be. Yet this is a risk that is always incurred in the erection of public buildings, unless the architect is a very exceptional person, or is restrained by those who are charged with responsibility for the plan. The power, dignity, and resources of this Government are sufficiently manifested now in the external aspect of our beautiful Capitol, and in a few of the other public buildings. In a Library, the power, dignity, and resources of our Government will be best manifested, so far as they should be exhibited at all, in the completeness and adaptation of the internal structure, and in the number, character, and arrangement of the books upon its shelves.

"Persons who are not in the habit of using public libraries are not generally aware how much the facilities for ready and accurate research depend upon arrangements that are largely mechanical. But to effectuate such arrangements in the best manner requires the most extensive knowledge of books and their uses, and no small amount of intellectual labor. This is the work of a librarian. When the library is, or is intended to become, a very large and complete one, the internal structure is a point of the utmost importance, and if this is not properly attended to no librarian can do his work successfully. If I had the whole Treasury at my command for this purpose I would build nothing but a brick structure, with very thick walls, with the least possible amount of wood-work, and with only so much attention to the outside architecture as to give the building a respectable appearance. Granite, or marble, or stone of any kind, as the chief material, I would eschew, for the reason that brick, when well made, is far more capable of resisting fire. If the building is originally isolated as much as it ought to be, and is kept so, the danger arising from any conflagration in the neighborhood will be reduced to the minimum, and will be practically nothing for all time.

"In considering and acting upon different plans submitted by different artists, native or foreign—and I would open the competition to the artists of the world—I would not think of adopting any one that did not make security against fire and the internal adaptation of the building to the uses of a great library the paramount considerations.

"To enable the commissioners to decide on the internal arrangements, one or more of them should be authorized and empowered to visit the principal public libraries in this country and in Europe, especially the great library of the British Museum, the National Library of France, formerly known as 'Bibliothèque du Roi,' and some of the larger private libraries in England and on the Continent. The present accomplished Librarian of Congress would, I presume, concur with me in these suggestions. From his official position and his great experience he could render the most valuable aid to the commissioners if Congress should determine to have the Library built under the supervision of such a body. In any mode of action his advice would be, I should think, indispensable to sound and safe conclusions.

"The preservation of the copies of all new publications which are required by the copyright laws to be deposited in the Library of Congress is a matter in which the authors and publishers of the country have a deep concern. These copies are the muniments of copyright title. Their preservation, as evidence of what was secured by the original entry, and of what the widow or children of an author is or are entitled to re-enter for a renewal of the copyright term, together with the record of transfers of titles and of contracts made by the author when such contracts have been recorded, is, in the aggregate, of vast consequence. Authors and publishers are taxed by the Government through the requisition of such deposit of copies. Oftentimes this tax, in the case of expensive works, is an onerous one, and in all works, from the most to the least expensive, these copies are the proofs of what is embraced in the copyright. In the course of my professional experience I have often had occasion to know how critically important to the rights and interests of authors and their representatives these evidences of their copyright title are. Our literature has now reached a condition in which enormous pecuniary interests are involved in the execution and administration of the copyright laws. The system, so far as our native literature is concerned, is not likely to undergo any material change. That literature has grown to its great present proportions since the generation to which I belong first learned to read, and no one needs to be told how important it is to the education of the people, or how much it has done to raise the country in the estimation of the world.

"Experience has shown that wherever there exists a public library under proper regulations, and affording reasonable guarantees for the preservation and use of large collections of books, it may to a considerable extent rely for accretions on donations from private individuals, and is not wholly dependent for its enlargement on the funds appropriated for its increase by public authority. Individuals, who have during their lives made important and interesting collections of books, have not unfrequently been induced to make testamentary disposition of them to some public library in which they know that their collections will be carefully treasured, and that their

names, as donors, will be perpetuated. There is no reason why a National Library should not be, and there are many reasons why it should be, a favorite object of such donations. But in order to encourage them, the internal arrangements and the management of such a library should be so calculated from its foundation as to afford ample accommodation for special donations. The building should be projected and executed on such a scale that it can wait for such accretions and be fitted to receive and provide for them when they come; and if halls remain for some years unoccupied and unused the knowledge that they exist will have a strong tendency to fill them in the course of time. Let us build for posterity as well as for ourselves.

"Let us have a National Library worthy of such a country, and fitted to receive all the additions, for which Congress may from time to time provide the means, and all that individuals may be willing to bestow.

"I have ventured, Senator, to make these suggestions because, from long reflection, I am persuaded that there are hazards attending the inception and execution of this very important undertaking which ought to be foreseen, and which can be obviated by proper precautions.

"GEORGE TICKNOR CURTIS."

A CLEARING HOUSE FOR DUPLICATE PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

From the Nation.

THE United States spent in 1884 through the office of the Public Printer close upon \$3,000,000; and yet it is next to impossible for public libraries to get documents that they want very much, though they often get sacks of documents which they do not want. These latter the library and its groaning shelves keep, unless they are duplicates. If they are, it is as hard to get rid of them as it is to get the more desired volumes. They cannot be exchanged (the best resource for the disposal of duplicates), for other librarians say to themselves, Why should I give anything for this when I can get it for nothing by simply asking my Representative for it? They cannot be sold at auction, because the auctioneer says that they will not pay for the cataloguing. Did not Senator Anthony's two thousand volumes of Congressional documents sell for eight cents apiece? The librarian's conscience will not let him sell them for old paper, and so they accumulate. But now an outlet has been furnished. The Department of the Interior, having very successfully acted as clearing-house for libraries in the matter of the *Congressional record*, receiving duplicates from those libraries that had them, and from the stock thus formed supplying deficiencies wherever they existed, has resolved to apply the same system to all public documents. Mr. J. G. Ames, Superintendent of Documents, Interior Department, if informed that any library has duplicates which it is willing to contribute to the common fund, will furnish wrappers which will enable the library to dispatch the volumes free of expense, and if the library will

send a list of its wants, he will supply them so far as the volumes in his possession allow. Let every library hasten to assist in this good work.

U. S. PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

THE publication and distribution of U. S. Government publications were shown by the papers and reports presented at the Conference of the American Library Association at Lake George (now reprinted separately from the Proceedings in a ten-page pamphlet), to be very extravagantly, wastefully managed, since they are inaccessible where they should be, and scattered as waste paper where they should not be. An important attempt to cure this state of things is shown in Mr. Singleton's bill (H. R. No. 1298), presented in the House Jan. 5, 1886, and referred to the Committee on Printing. Its provisions are of much importance to librarians, booksellers, and publicists. They are as follows:

A BILL

To reduce the expense of the public printing and binding, and for other purposes.

Regular Documents.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted, etc.,* That the regular documents shall comprise the Journals of the two Houses of Congress, the President's messages, the report of the Secretary of the Treasury on commerce and navigation, the report on the commercial relations of the United States with foreign countries, the annual reports proper of the heads of Executive Departments, together with such condensed statements of their respective Bureaus as are absolutely necessary to explain the same, and such other reports and documents ordered to be printed as may from time to time be designated by either House of Congress as of the regular number.

Number.

SEC. 2. That there shall be printed of the regular documents 1516 copies, and of all other documents, except reports in contested-election cases, 938 copies; *Provided, however,* That of committee reports of a private nature, on pensions, patents, claims, reliefs, disabilities, and desertions, 588 copies only shall be printed.

Distribution.

[SEC. 3. Provides for the distribution of [1516] regular documents, including unbound copies [601], of which the Secretary of State is to have 40 for immediate despatch to legations and consulates abroad, and those [915] reserved for binding, in sheep, including to the Library of Congress 2 for itself and 35 for the foreign exchanges; to the State Department 25 for legations and consulates abroad, and to the Interior Department 425,] to be distributed as follows: One set to the executive of each State, to be deposited in the State library for the use of the State, in exchange for a complete set of its legislative and executive documents sent to the

Library of Congress; one set to the executive of each Territory, for the Territorial library; and it is hereby made the duty of the secretary of each Territory to send a complete set of its executive and legislative documents to the Library of Congress; one set to the Military Academy at West Point; one set to the Naval Academy at Annapolis; one set to such incorporated college, public library, athenæum, literary and scientific institution, or board of trade in each Congressional district and Territory of the United States as may be designated in a manner hereinafter provided; and the Public Printer shall deliver to the Secretary of the Interior one additional set for each additional Senator, Representative, and Delegate added to the present representation in Congress.

Public Depositories.

SEC. 4. That the Representative of each Congressional district and the Delegate in Congress of each Territory in which no institution has heretofore been designated shall name to the Secretary of the Interior one institution in his district or Territory, and each Senator from States still entitled to such designation one institution at large, to which the publications directed to be distributed under Section 3 of this act shall be delivered: *Provided, however,* That previous to its receiving said documents it shall signify to the Secretary of the Interior its willingness to pay all cost of transportation, to preserve them as a permanent portion of its library, accessible, free of charge, to the general public; and shall also, during the month of January of each year, report to the Secretary of the Interior the number of volumes in its library and the number of documents received from the Secretary of the Interior under the provisions of this act still in its possession; and the provisions of this proviso are hereby declared to apply to all institutions already designated as depositories of public documents; and all institutions already designated, or that shall hereafter be designated, as depositories of public documents, shall continue to receive them so long as, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Interior, they remain suitable depositories of the same: *Provided,* That when, in consequence of the redistricting of a State, or from any other cause, any Congressional district shall include more than one such depository, the Secretary of the Interior shall select one institution to remain the depository for said district, and shall strike the other or others from the list, except in case of institutions at large, designated, or to be hereafter designated by Senators.

Private Reports.

[SEC. 5. Provides for the distribution of the [588] reports of committees of a private nature, on pensions, patents, claims, reliefs, and desertions, to be termed "private reports," including those [39] to be bound in sheep, of which the Congressional Library is to have 2 copies.]

Contested Election Reports.

[SEC. 6. Provides, as to contested election reports, for 2 copies for each member of the House in which said contest may lie; and 22 copies, in

sheep, of which the Congressional Library is to have 2 copies.]

Other Documents.

[SEC. 7. Provides for the distribution of other documents not hereinbefore provided for [938], out of which 49 shall be bound in sheep, of which the Congressional Library is to have 2 copies.]

Bills and Resolutions Ordered Printed.

[SEC. 8. Provides that in addition to 612 copies of all bills and resolutions printed by order of Congress, or of either House, at the close of each session the Public Printer shall deliver to the Congressional Library and to the libraries of the Senate and House of Representatives, each, two complete sets; and to the document-rooms of the Senate and House of Representatives, each, one complete set of all bills and resolutions of such session, bound in sheep, for permanent preservation: *Provided, however,* That hereafter no bills or resolution of a private nature, relating to pensions, reliefs, disabilities, patents, claims, and desertions, shall be printed except upon a favorable report of a committee of Congress: *And provided further,* That when a bill passes one House as reported, the same shall not be reprinted in the other House, unless changes are made by the committee having the same in charge.

Bureau Copies.

SEC. 9. That the Public Printer shall deliver of each bill and resolution printed by order of either House of Congress, as soon as practicable after such bill or resolution is printed, to the head of each Executive Department, for official use, one copy for the Secretary's office and one copy for each subordinate Bureau of the Department.

Treaties and Laws.

SEC. 10. That whenever any treaty or postal convention shall have been ratified, and any act or resolution shall have become a law, there shall be printed 950 copies, which shall be distributed as follows: To the document-room of the Senate, for the use of the Senate, 250 copies; to the document-room of the House of Representatives, for the use of the House, 700 copies: *Provided,* That the heads of the Executive Departments are hereby authorized to have a number of copies sufficient for official use in their respective Departments printed by the Public Printer, the cost of which is to be charged against the appropriation for printing and binding of said Departments.

Special Documents.

SEC. 11. That the Public Printer shall print, and bind in cloth, in addition to the number in this act before provided, and deliver to the folding-rooms at the Capitol, of the papers relating to foreign affairs accompanying the annual message of the President, of the commercial relations annually prepared under the direction of the State Department, and of the annual report on the statistics of commerce and navigation, 15 copies for each Senator and 8 for each Representative and Delegate in Congress; of the annual reports and accompanying documents of

the Secretaries of the Treasury, War, Navy, Interior, the Postmaster-General, and the Attorney-General, 10 copies for each Senator and 6 for each Representative and Delegate in Congress; of the abridgment of the annual message and documents, 25 copies for each Senator and 15 for each Representative and Delegate in Congress; of eulogies on deceased Senators, Representatives, or Delegates in Congress, accompanied by a portrait of the deceased, executed in such style as the Joint Committee on Printing may direct, 20 copies to each member of the House of which the deceased was a member, and 10 copies to each member of the other House.

Department Reports.

SEC. 12. That the Public Printer is hereby authorized to print, and bind in paper, on Departmental requisitions, such number, not to exceed 1500, of the annual and special reports of the heads of the several Departments, and of the subordinate Bureaus thereof, ordered to be printed by Congress, as may be required for the use of the Department making the said report: *Provided, however,* That the said requisitions shall be made on the Government Printer before the plates of the regular number ordered to be printed for Congress are put to press: *And provided further,* That the total number of pages of any particular Department report, except the report of the Comptroller of the Currency, the report on receipts and expenditures, the report on the commercial relations of the United States with foreign countries, and the report of the Bureau of Statistics, shall not exceed 500 octavo, and the cost thereof shall be charged against the fund for printing and binding of the Department.

Department Appropriations.

SEC. 13. That no Department shall use the funds appropriated to it for printing and binding in the publication of reports, books, and documents other than those herein designated, except upon the order of Congress; and no Congressional document or report of any Department or Bureau shall be printed or bound by the Public Printer, upon Department requisition, unless authorized by law.

Printing by Advance Orders.

SEC. 14. That the Public Printer shall furnish to the head of each Executive Department 1 copy, or the title-page, or such portion of the work as will indicate its character, of each document and report printed by order of either House of Congress, as soon as practicable after such document or report comes into his hands, and he shall deliver, on the request of the head of any Department, provided such request be made within twenty-four hours after the delivery of said sample copy or title page, such number of copies of particular documents and reports, not to exceed one for the Secretary's office and one for each subordinate Bureau of the Department, as may be required for the use of the same: *Provided,* That the distribution of all documents, reports, bills, and resolutions by officers of Congress shall henceforth cease: *Provided further,* That the Public Printer may sell copies of said documents, reports, bills, and resolutions, either

singly or in series, when paid for the same in advance, in accordance with existing law.

Statements.

SEC. 15. That the Public Printer shall incorporate in his annual report to Congress a statement of the number of bills, resolutions, documents, reports, acts, postal conventions, and treaties delivered to the several Executive Departments under the provisions of Sections 9 and 14 of this act.

Congressional Record.

SEC. 16. Provides for the daily edition of the Congressional Record, including . . . to or upon the order of each Senator, 40 copies; to or upon the order of each Representative and Delegate, 24 copies, said copies to be of the daily or bound edition, as each Senator, Representative, or Delegate receiving the same may elect; . . . to the Library of Congress, 2 copies; and for so many copies of the Congressional Record as will enable the Public Printer to deliver . . . to the Library of Congress 37 sets, of which 35 sets shall be for foreign exchange; . . . to the Secretary of the Interior, 423 sets, of which 1 set shall be distributed to each State and Territorial library and to the depository of public documents in each Congressional district and Territory of the United States; and the Public Printer shall deliver one additional set to the Secretary of the Interior for every addition made to the present representation in Congress.

Editing of Statutes, etc.

SEC. 17. That the Secretary of State is hereby charged with the duty of causing the statutes of the United States passed at each session of Congress, together with recent treaties, postal conventions, and executive proclamations, to be edited and prepared for publication and distribution.

Pamphlet Laws.

SEC. 18. That the Public Printer shall, as soon as practicable after the close of each session of Congress, deliver of the laws of such session, published in pamphlet form, as follows: To the folding-room of the Senate, 15 copies for each Senator; to the folding-room of the House of Representatives, 10 copies for each Representative and Delegate, and 10 copies for the official reporters of debates; to the document-rooms of the Department of the Interior, so many copies as will enable the Secretary of the Interior to distribute, upon the designation of each Senator, 20 copies, and of each Representative and Delegate, 15 copies, for the use of institutions or courts within their respective States and districts.

SEC. 19. That the Public Printer shall deliver at the document-rooms of the Department of the Interior 1525 copies of the pamphlet laws of each session, excepting the last session, of every Congress, of which the Secretary of the Interior shall deliver . . . to the Library of Congress, 5 copies; to the Department of State, including those for the use of legations and consulates, 385 copies; . . . to each State and Territory Library, 1 copy.

Statutes at Large.

SEC. 20. That as soon as practical after the close of each Congress, the Public Printer shall deliver at the document-rooms of the Department of the Interior 2800 copies of the Statutes at Large of the United States for such Congress, bound in sheep, which shall be distributed by the Secretary of the Interior as follows: . . . to the Library of Congress, 10 copies; to the Department of State, including those for the use of legations and consulates, 385 copies; . . . to each State and Territorial library and to the depository of public documents in each Congressional district, 1 copy. And the Secretary of the Interior shall supply offices newly created out of the number provided for in this section.

Sales by Booksellers.

SEC. 21. That the said pamphlet laws and Statutes at Large, bound in sheep at the Public Printing Office, shall be kept for sale by the Secretary of the Interior, who shall sell them at 10 per centum advance on cost price to any person applying for the same; and he may make arrangements with booksellers to keep on sale pamphlet laws and Statutes at Large, but in any such arrangement it shall be provided that the same be sold at the Government price to all purchasers; and the Secretary may allow to any such person keeping the pamphlet laws and Statutes at Large for sale such part of the 10 per centum above the actual cost as he may deem just and reasonable; and the proceeds of all sales shall be paid quarterly into the Treasury.

Legal Evidence.

SEC. 22. That the said pamphlet copies of the acts of each session, and the said bound copies of the acts of each Congress, shall be legal evidence of the laws and treaties therein contained in all the courts of the United States and of the several States therein.

Custodianship.

SEC. 23. That the powers conferred and the duties enjoined on the Secretary of State by the act of Congress approved the 20th of June, 1874, entitled "An act providing for publication of the Revised Statutes and laws of the United States," in relation to the custody, distribution, and sale of the said Revised Statutes, the Session Laws, and the Statutes at Large, be, and the same are hereby, transferred to the Secretary of the Interior, who shall, from and after the passage of this act, possess all the powers and discharge the duties in relation to such custody, distribution, and sale in pursuance of the provisions and in accordance with the requirements of said act of the 20th of June, 1874. That the Secretary of State shall, upon the requisition of the Secretary of the Interior, deliver to the latter officer all copies of the Revised Statutes of the United States, and of the Revised Statutes relating to the District of Columbia, public treaties, and post-roads, and all copies of the Session Laws of Congress and of the Statutes at Large, remaining in his office, for the purpose of distribution or sale, at the date of such requisition by the Secretary of the Interior.

Court Reports.

SEC. 24. That immediately after the publication of each volume of the reports of the Supreme Court of the United States, the reporter thereof shall cause to be delivered to the Secretary of the Interior 300 copies of the same, to enable him to distribute as many thereof as may be needed, as follows: . . . to the Library of Congress, 10 copies; . . . The remainder shall be deposited in the Department of the Interior, to supply offices newly created.

Opinions of Attorney-General.

SEC. 25. That the Attorney-General shall, from time to time, cause to be edited and prepared for publication by the Public Printer such opinions of the law-officers authorized to be given by title 8 of the Revised Statutes as he may deem valuable for preservation in volumes, which shall be of uniform style and appearance with the last volume of such opinions published. Each volume shall contain proper head-notes, a complete and full index, and such foot-notes as the Attorney-General may approve. The Public Printer shall deliver 800 copies of said volume to the Secretary of the Interior for distribution; and the law governing the distribution of the reports of the Supreme Court shall also govern the distribution of these volumes, except that 100 additional copies shall be delivered to the Attorney-General for the use of the Department of Justice, 1 copy to each Senator, Representative, and Delegate in Congress, and 1 copy to each State and Territorial library in the United States.

Report.

SEC. 26. That the Secretary of the Interior shall annually report to Congress the number of documents received by him under the provisions of this act, the number distributed, and the individuals and institutions receiving the same, and the number still remaining in his charge.

Public Property.

SEC. 27. That all bound volumes of Congressional or other documents specified in this act (excepting such copies as are delivered to the President and Vice-President, the Chief Justice and justices of the Supreme Court, and the Senators, Representatives, and Delegates in Congress), delivered for the use of civil, military, or naval officers of the United States, shall be regarded as public property, and shall be transferred by each of said officers to his successor when retiring from office.

Distribution of Surplus Copies.

SEC. 28. That at the close of the Forty eighth Congress, and also at the close of each subsequent Congress, all surplus documents not required for official use, of every kind, remaining in the custody of the Senate and House of Representatives, and in the care of any of the Executive Departments, Bureaus, and offices, shall be sent to the document-rooms of the Department of the Interior; and the Secretary of the Interior shall distribute these documents (except such as may be required to supply deficiencies in the Library of Congress or any of the Executive De-

partments, or in State or Territorial libraries) to such public libraries or other literary institutions (except those already designated to receive public documents) as shall be named to him by the several Senators, Representatives, and Delegates in said Congress; and in said distribution the several Congressional districts shall, as nearly as may be practicable, share equally.

Binding.

SEC. 29. That all binding for the libraries of the various Executive Departments shall be in cloth, or half-bound in American Russia leather, or half-sheep, with paper or cloth sides; and no more expensive binding shall be done on requisition from the Executive Departments than that in this section provided.

SEC. 30. That all binding for the Congressional Library and for the library of the Surgeon-General's Office shall be done in such suitable style as the Librarian of Congress and the Surgeon-General of the United States Army may designate: *Provided*, That the style designated shall not be more expensive than that heretofore ordinarily used in the said libraries.

SEC. 31. That the Public Printer shall cause American Russia leather to be used in the Government bindery instead of imported Russia.

SEC. 32. That in the binding of blank and pass books for the use of Congress and the various Executive Departments, where "sheep" leather has heretofore been used, "fleshes" and "skivers" shall be used in future.

Paper.

SEC. 33. That hereafter the regular number of all documents and reports printed for Congress shall be on 53-pound paper, and those printed on requisition from the Executive Departments, and extra numbers printed for Congress, shall be on 45-pound paper, unless otherwise ordered by the Joint Committee on Printing.

Plates.

SEC. 34. That whenever any maps, engravings, lithographs, photolithographs, or illustrations of any kind whatsoever are required for any of the Executive Departments or by the Public Printer, the probable cost whereof amounts to the sum of \$200 and does not exceed \$2000, the head of the Department requiring the same, or the Public Printer, as the case may be, shall award the same to the lowest responsible bidder, after having invited competition by circular addressed to not less than six of the largest establishments doing the particular class of work required; and whenever the probable cost thereof exceeds the sum of \$2000, the head of the Department requiring the same, or the Public Printer, as the case may be, shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, after advertisement, twice a week for two successive weeks, in two daily newspapers published in each of the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, and Washington: *Provided, however*, That the photolithographing or otherwise producing copies of the weekly issue of drawings to be attached to patents and copies be done under the supervision of the Commissioner of Patents, and in the city

of Washington, if it can be done there at reasonable rates; and the Commissioner of Patents, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, is authorized to make contracts therefor: *And provided further*, That all maps or illustrations to accompany any Congressional document or book ordered to be printed by Congress, for the use of Congress or for any of the Departments, shall be contracted for by the Public Printer in the manner hereinbefore provided. And it shall be the duty of the heads of the various Executive Departments, and of the Public Printer, to set forth in their annual reports the amounts expended for engravings, maps, heliotypes, photolithographs, lithographs, or illustrations executed for their respective Departments during the year, the title of the work for which each lot was intended, the number of copies printed, the names of the various bidders, and the price offered by each, and the name and bid of the party to whom the contract was awarded.

Advertising.

SEC. 35. That whenever any document, report, or other publication is ordered to be printed at the Government Printing Office which the Public Printer shall deem of general interest and demand, he shall, from the time such order is made until the forms are put to press, insert an advertisement twice a week in the daily Congressional Record, and once a week in the Official Patent Office Gazette, setting forth the name of the publication, together with the cost price thereof, which shall be made up from the cost price of the paper, press-work, and binding thereof in paper covers, with 10 per centum added thereto; and also the rate of postage thereon, after the same shall have been properly wrapped for transportation by the mails. And it shall be the duty of the Public Printer, on receipt of the price aforesaid, to deliver them to the person or persons ordering the same; and when he shall also receive the postage thereof, with the cost of wrapping, to cause the same to be properly mailed to any designated address; but it shall not be lawful for him to supply any document unless he has been paid therefor in advance, nor shall he print any greater number of copies than those ordered before the forms are put to press.

Report of Public Printer.

SEC. 36. The Public Printer shall hereafter set forth in his annual report to Congress, in tabulated form similar to the one now in use, the names of all documents printed during the year, the number of pages of each, the number of copies printed of each, and the charges for each document so printed, itemized as follows: The charge for composition; the charge for stereotyping; the charge for press-work; the cost of paper, together with the number of reams used and their quality; and also the style of binding, and the charge therefor; and, finally, the total charge for each document.

Detailed Estimates.

SEC. 37. That the Public Printer shall render with each order filled on requisition from any

Department or official a bill or account setting forth in detail the items which make up the cost of the same—namely, charge for composition, if any; stereotyping, if any; imposition or charge for putting plates to press; press-work; paper; folding, gathering, and stitching; ruling and binding. And it is hereby made the duty of the officer or official receiving said bills or accounts from the Public Printer permanently to preserve the same.

Penalties.

SEC. 38. That any officer or employé of the Government Printing Office who shall make, or cause to be made, or present, or cause to be presented, any false or fictitious entry, charge, statement, report, voucher, or account in regard to the cost of printing and binding done in the Government Printing Office, or of any material and machinery purchased for the use thereof, or of any material, machinery, or wastage sold by the Public Printer or his agents, to contractors therefor, under existing laws, or in regard to the pay of any officer or employé therein, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof in any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be fined in a sum not less than \$1000 nor more than \$5000, and shall be imprisoned at hard labor for a term of not less than 1 nor more than 5 years.

Repeal.

SEC. 39. Repeals conflicting provisions.

New York Library Club.

THE second regular meeting of the New York Library Club was held at Columbia College Library, January 14, 1886, at three o'clock P.M., the president, R. R. Bowker, in the chair. Nearly forty persons were present. The records of the first meeting were read and approved. The Executive Committee reported favorably upon a list of the names of thirty-one persons proposed for membership. The list was read by the Secretary, and all were unanimously elected.

Mr. R. B. Poole, Chairman of the Committee on Book Thieves, presented a report containing the following recommendations:

1. That a list of all persons detected stealing or mutilating books be kept by the Club.
2. That such names, together with memoranda of the titles of the books, and the parts mutilated, be reported at once to all the chief librarians connected with the Club.
3. That this list be kept strictly confidential.
4. That in case of suspected persons the names should not be placed on the list, but that when peculiarly strong suspicions exist respecting any individual, such information should be communicated privately and confidentially to the chief librarians, or to those most nearly interested.

Mr. Bowker. A new style of book thieving has recently been adopted. The thief enters a book store with apparently a large-sized package, well tied up, in his hand. He rests it upon the counter or table while he looks around. At-

ter he goes out with his innocent-looking package some large volume, like Webster's Dictionary, is missing. The package is "an infernal machine" for stealing books with; just how it works I am not able to explain, not yet having seen one. This game was tried at E. P. Dutton & Co.'s the other day. The thief got away, but the "machine" was captured, with a Webster's Dictionary inside.

Mr. Dewey. We have had similar trouble here with bags; readers using them not for the purpose of stealing, but for forcing loans from us of books they could not get at the desk, returning them afterward in the same way. We were compelled to require that all bags be left at the coat-room, and checked.

Mr. Peoples. As this report speaks of the mutilation of books, I would like to get the opinion of the Club as to the punishment that should be meted to those who mutilate books. Quotations have been cut from our Webster's Dictionary; forty-three pages were removed from our copy of Brewer's Hand-book, and our encyclopædias have been mutilated. I think the law should be made more severe.

Mr. Bowker. Have you used the existing law to any extent?

Mr. Peoples. We have not been able to catch any one yet. Our Board of Trustees has voted a reward of \$250 for the detection and conviction of any one guilty of mutilating our books. I should like to hear the opinion of others.

Mr. Nelson. A man has recently served out a three months' sentence for mutilating a number of a periodical at the Astor Library. He was suspected and watched until caught.

Mr. Peoples moved that the report of the Committee be accepted.

Mr. Dewey, seconding the motion, asked what was meant by the third recommendation, "That this list be kept strictly confidential"?

Mr. Poole. That it is not to go beyond the chief librarian.

Mr. Dewey. I think it should go beyond the chief librarian, as the assistants must know in order to watch suspected persons.

Miss Coe. I think I was the member of the Committee who suggested that this list should be confidential. I do not think that all that is said and done in the Club should be published. There are some members of the Club not interested in knowing who the book thieves are.

Mr. Dewey. I am of the opinion that the proceedings of the general meetings of the Club should be published, in order that the interest of the public should be awakened in library matters.

Miss Coe. Certainly, but not in matters like this.

Mr. Dewey. What is the motive for keeping this list secret? This is a practical question, and bears directly upon the granting of privileges to readers to enter alcoves and handle books; and also upon the question of asking the public for money for establishing libraries, the usefulness of which will be very much impaired if readers cannot have access to the books.

Mrs. Dewey. It seems to me that the fear of having one's name published in such a list will have a great effect in preventing stealing and mutilation of books.

Miss Coe. I think the fact that the name of one caught will be sent to all librarians having this list will have an equally good effect.

Mr. Hannah. I deal summarily with those I catch. The two-cent thief whom I caught—the life member who stole newspapers—I at once ordered from our rooms, and he never came back; in fact, he soon moved to New York.

Mr. Dewey. We object to being made a penal colony for the suburbs.

The report of the Committee was then accepted.

On motion of Mr. Cohen the third recommendation was amended to read as follows: 3. That this list be kept strictly confidential by the librarians receiving it, for their own use and that of any persons to whom in their discretion they may deem it necessary to make portions of it known.

The report as amended was then adopted. On motion of Mr. Peoples, the Committee was requested to make an additional report, taking into consideration an amendment to the present law, providing for an increase of the punishment for the mutilation of books.

Mr. Nelson, for the Committee on a Union list of periodicals, reported progress, stating that a plan had been adopted and that a list was in preparation, and giving orally a brief outline of the plan.

The President then announced the topic for discussion: Free Public Circulating Libraries in New York City.

He regretted the unavoidable absence of Mr. Adolph L. Sanger, who had been invited by the Executive Committee to be present to-day to open this discussion. He understood that it was proposed to make use of the Reservoir park on Fifth Avenue, between Fortieth and Forty-second streets as a site for a large library building; part of the land to be sold to provide a fund for the erection of the building. He also understood that it was proposed to ask for a portion of the sinking fund for this purpose. He then called upon Mr. F. W. Kernochan, one of the trustees of the New York Free Circulating Library, to make some remarks.

Mr. Kernochan. I hoped to see Mr. Sanger here to lay his plan before you. I had an interview with him to-day in his office, but prefer not to say anything as to what passed between us. I am frank to say that I am opposed to this movement. I have been connected with the New York Free Circulating Library for six years, since its incorporation. We have proceeded on a different plan. What we have learned we have learned from experience. These gentlemen have taken the steps they have by following the action of other cities in establishing large libraries. We have not aimed to furnish all the people of New York with books. There are two classes of work to be done. The first is the furnishing of a good collection of books for the

use of scientific students; we have two or more such libraries already in the Astor Library, Columbia College Library, and others. Nor have we to furnish circulating libraries; the Mercantile and the Apprentices are doing good work. We have only to supplement the work already done, by establishing our branch libraries in all parts of the city not yet reached. I think this is the radical defect in this plan for a large central library. I have no sympathy with a plan for spending money. I was asked to be one of the incorporators of this new movement, but I declined. I am sure that Mr. Sanger and the gentlemen with him are interested in doing good to the people. There is no necessity for spending the sinking fund simply for the sake of spending it. We claim that we have a plan that will circulate books as they must be circulated in New York. These small circulating libraries can work together under a general head which need not have a grand building. I am muzzled because the plans of the new movement are not brought out.

Mr. Dewey. I said to a member of the press that this scheme for the Reservoir Park began at the wrong end. About a million dollars is involved in this scheme. The income of this amount for two years would equip ten branches in different parts of the city. After that, the income would pay for running them. The Otten-dorfer Branch, almost within a stone's throw, has circulated more volumes in its first year than the home library in Bond Street. The city money should be appropriated for the benefit of the people.

Mr. Kernochan. We found no trouble in getting money to establish libraries. Two buildings and books for them are now offered to us. What we want is the money to run them with. These running expenses, as Mr. Dewey says, should come from the public funds.

Mr. Schwartz. Our society, The Apprentices' Library, has had the question of establishing branches under discussion for twenty years, but we have had no funds. When we moved from Grand Street we lost a portion of our readers in the lower part of the city, in Brooklyn, and in Jersey City, but we have gained others.

Miss Coe. I am convinced that it is absolutely necessary to district the city in order to circulate books so as to reach the people. Our readers change their location, and then cannot afford the time nor the car fares to reach us. We have run our two libraries at a cost of \$5000 each per year, but this is too little. It is parsimony, not economy. We need more.

Mr. Dewey. The books the public want can be bought cheaper than those needed for reference libraries, and the cost for cataloguing and for running expenses is much less in proportion for small libraries than for the large ones. The Astor and Columbia College Libraries ought to supply in a few years the finest reference libraries on the continent.

Mr. W. W. Appleton. I cordially indorse all that has been said. In Boston it has been found necessary to circulate the books through

the small branches; and when the new central building is completed it is their intention not to circulate books from it, but to supply all the demand for circulation through the branches.

Mr. J. C. Henderson thought that, while the small libraries would do a great deal of good, there was still a place for a large, central library, which would exert a silent influence that could not be estimated. He instanced the beneficial effects, in many ways, to Paris, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and other cities, of their large libraries. He thought we could well afford to have a large library in this, the wealthiest city of the continent; that we ought not to be too economical here.

Mr. Schwartz. I think we are all in sympathy with the gentlemen's views for a large library, but the amount to be expended is not to be very large. If we can have both the small and the large, let us have them, but let us have the small libraries at all events, through which alone we can reach the mass of the people.

Mr. Poole. The question of management is an important one, whether it is to be political or not.

Mr. Cohen thought one large library was needed to avoid the purchase of duplicates in supplying the smaller libraries.

Miss Coe. Mr. Cohen will not say that ten artisans from different sections of the city must come to one place to read the books they want in the time at their disposal. We must have duplicates; the reason is because the people want them.

Further discussion followed on the necessity for branch libraries on the west side and in other portions of the city, and on the probability of the present reference libraries being opened to the public by evening as well as by day.

On motion of Mr. Nelson, voted, that the chair appoint a committee of three to collect the statistics and ascertain the specialties of the various libraries of New York and vicinity. Messrs. Nelson, Schwartz, and S. H. Berry were appointed as this committee.

Mr. Bowker. We are trying to get for advance publication in the *Library Journal* the revised list of libraries in the United States which is now being prepared in the Bureau of Education at Washington. Most of us would agree that we do not want to use public moneys for what can be done by private funds. It would not be advantageous to establish branches of a city library where the ground is already covered. Artisans of a district should be supplied with the books in which they are interested. Our feeling here seems to be that books should be supplied to the people who need them most in such way as will afford them the readiest access to them.

Mr. W. A. White (of Brooklyn). I count myself on the side of those who want the small libraries first. I think the public money should be applied to these first, and to the central library afterward.

Mr. Dewey. Boston is a round city, with its large library in the centre. New York is like a

fish-pole, and has no centre. Thirty-six years ago the central library was established in Boston. The question of branches is a modern one, and they have adopted them there. A central library here and now would be like a post-office without carriers. The growth of a central library must be slow, and it will come.

Mr. Kernochan. We have learned by experience that dealing with the people in the branches the librarians are enabled to direct the reading of the people, thus exerting an educational influence, and this is an additional argument in favor of small libraries.

Mr. Nelson. We have the university libraries already established now. The Astor, Columbia College, Historical and other reference libraries for scholars and scientific students; and the smaller branch libraries should be established and maintained from the public funds, like the grammar and preparatory schools, to educate the people up to the use of the scholarly and reference libraries, whose doors, we may rest assured, will not be closed to them.

On motion of Mr. Cohen, voted to continue the discussion of this subject at the next regular meeting of the Club, or at a special meeting to be called by the Executive Committee if they shall deem it advisable. Adjourned at 5.45 P.M.

The following is a list of the members elected to New York Library Club at the second meeting, January 14, 1886:

Miss Hannah L. Allen,	Fr. Lib., Orange, N. J.
C. A. Andrus,	423 W. 43d St.
G. H. Baker,	Columbia Coll. Lib.
W. J. Berry,	Ln. Bar Assoc.
W. S. Biscoe,	Columbia Coll. Lib.
S. Buel, D.D.	Ln. Gen. Theol. Sem.
W. S. Butler,	Ln. N. Y. Soc. Lib.
J. W. Chambers,	Ln. Amer. Inst.
Mrs. R. H. Cross,	6 Washington Sq., N. Y.
Miss E. Doheny,	Ln. Y. W. C. A.
F. A. Fernald,	1 W. 21st St.
Albert R. Frey,	The Astor Lib.
Frank B. Hill,	P. L., Paterson, N. J.
Miss Fanny Hull,	Ln. Fr. Lending Lib., Union for Chr. Wk., Brooklyn.
H. M. Leipziger,	Y. M. Heb. Assoc. Lib.
Edwin C. Louis,	13 First St., So. Brooklyn.
R. Halkett Lord,	Ed. <i>Bookmart</i> , Jersey City.
Miss Martha F. Nelson,	N. Y. Fr. Circ. Lib., 49 Bond St.
W. E. Parker,	Columbia Coll. Lib.
Dr. J. C. Peters,	Hon. Ln. N. Y. Acad. of Med.
Miss Jessie E. Prentice,	L. I. Hist. Soc. Lib.
Miss Louise N. Rose,	Ln. Brooklyn Inst., Youths' Fr. Lib.
Adolph L. Sanger,	115 Broadway.
C. Sotheman,	787 "
Gustav E. Stechert,	766 "
Miss Emma Toedteberg,	L. I. Hist. Soc. Lib.
Miss Amy Townsend,	9 W. 25th St.
Miss Elizabeth Tuttle,	L. I. Hist. Soc. Lib.
Arthur Wellington Tyler,	P. L., Plainfield, N. J.
Henry Warburg,	Y. M. Heb. Assoc. Lib.
J. N. Wing,	743 Broadway.

C: ALEX. NELSON, Secretary.

Library Economy and History.

CHRISTIE, R: Copley. The old church and school libraries of Lancashire. *n. p.*, Chet-ham Society [n. s., v. 7]. 1885. View + 13 + [1] + 215 + [1] p. sm. q.

FOSTER, W: E. The modern library. (In *Providence journal*, Sept. 20, 1884.) 1 col.

ITALY. MINISTERO DELLA PUBBLICA ISTRUZIONE. Regolamento per le biblioteche pubbliche governative, approvato . . . 28 oct. 1885. Roma, tipog. dei fratelli Bencini, 1885. 113 p. l.O.

This pamphlet, which we receive through the kindness of our correspondent, Sig. Chilovi, Prefetto della Biblioteca Naz. Centrale di Firenze, contains full regulations in regard to the names, objects, administration, offices, and public use of the libraries, with 49 pages of forms, full and interesting descriptions of Stirlings and Glasgow Public Library, the Mitchell Library, the Ewing Musical Library, and 13 private libraries.

TEDDER, H: R. Librarianship as a profession, a paper read at the Cambridge Meeting of the Library Association, Sept., 1882. London, 1884. 30 p. D.

TODD, C: Burr. N. Y. libraries. (In *Lippincott's*, Dec., p. 611-23.)

Describes the Society, Astor, Lenox, Historical Society's, Mercantile, Apprentices', and Free Circulating. The Columbia is not mentioned, except in the remark, "There are others, of course, but the above are such as from their character and history were best calculated for treatment in a magazine paper."

WORTHINGTON, T., and ELGOOD, J: G., architects. The Leyland Free Library and Museum at Hindley. Elevation and plan. (In *Builder*, Nov. 28, p. 767.)

Basement: workingmen's club with billiard and smoke-rooms. Ground-floor: lending library and news-room, 51x25 ft. 6 in.; cloak-rooms and lavatories; stone staircase. First floor: Committee room, 23x16 ft., with oriel window at end; reference library and museum, 51x26 ft. 6 in. Material, brick and stone. The bays and windows in the library and staircase have stone mullions and transoms, with lead-light glazings.

Abstracts of and extracts from reports.

Cambridge (Eng.) P. L. (30th rpt.) Added, 1154; total, 30,075; issued, 90,936, an increase over the previous year of 10,990.

Cincinnati P. L. Added, 4682 v., 392 pm.; total, 138,279 v., 15,591 pm.; home use, 209,438; lib. use, 169,369 (fiction, 55.9 per cent.); use of periodicals and newspapers, 354,696.

Cleveland (O.) P. L. (17th rpt.) Added, 3266; total, 45,905; issued, 198,202; 3056 v. bt. for \$4080.25. A sketch of the history of the library

is given. A semi-weekly delivery at a store in distant part of the city has been established, the issue averaging about 200 a month. A man who cut a portion of a newspaper from a file was arrested, found guilty, and fined \$10 and costs. The library has been rearranged on a plan which will permit of large additions without deranging the classification.

Levi Parsons Library, Gloversville, N. Y. (5th rpt.) Added, 755 v.; total, 6645; home use, 16,893 (fiction, 76.35 per cent.); ref. use, 1728; lost, 0.

"Two societies for mutual improvements have been formed, on suggestion of your librarian, the members of which pledged themselves to abstain from all degrading literature, such as dime novels and sensational periodicals. One of these was short-lived, and lasted four months only; the other, through the efforts of their principal, is still existing in Kingsboro.

"One thing is certain, our boys and girls have read during this year with more discrimination, and have fairly begun to acquire more and more careful reading habits.

"Through our circulating department the influence of good books may be brought to every home. Though the expense for this privilege is comparatively trifling—it may be had for 60c. a year—I would wish it could be made free, so that even the excuse 'I cannot afford it' might be taken away."

Lowell P. L. Added, 1341; total, about 30,000; issued, 123,334 (fiction, 87 per cent.).

"The plan introduced last year of opening the reading-room during the day-time on Sundays has been continued with good results.

"The numerous reading, historical, and other literary clubs which abound in our city have proved a powerful incentive to study and research, and the librarian is frequently called upon to furnish books and information upon the varied subjects under consideration by these circles of students.

"Not all who frequent the library remember as they ought to do that it is a place of business—for the selection and speedy return and delivery of books—and should be so used only, with due regard to its somewhat straitened proportions. It should not be made a place of social resort nor occupied by loiterers.

"The reading-room, established a little more than two years ago, has proved a great success, as is denoted by the almost constant presence, while it is open, of a large number of interested readers.

"The time is not far distant when the city will be confronted with the problem of providing a new place for the rapidly increasing library. The first requisite of such a place is an isolated building, where our literary treasures may be kept with reasonable safety in regard to fire. Next in order should be accommodations for the prospective growth of the library and of our city for many years to come, convenient provisions for the efficient administration of the institution, and, finally, such a modest display of good taste in the design and appointments of

the edifice as shall give pleasure to the eye and inspire respect for the place. . . .

"The directors feel that the best interests of the library cannot be properly promoted nor the institution developed toward the high plane now occupied by the best public libraries, while the librarian's tenure of office is subject to the fluctuations of politics. To the end, therefore, that the library may be raised to the highest point of efficiency and usefulness, they earnestly hope that the city council will take such action in the near future as will place the position of librarian beyond the danger of change by reason of political influence.

"The present librarian, with his literary tastes and rare qualifications for the position, and the corps of assistants, have proved to be in every respect faithful and competent."

Melrose P. L. A new reading-room was opened Dec. 16, with addresses. The furnishings are of light ash, the ceiling frescoed, and the walls tinted dark brown. It is to be open evenings and Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

N. Y. Free Circulating L. (6th rpt.) Total no. of v., 21,624; issued, 200,959 against 95,296 for the previous year; lost, 5; recovered, 1 of the 3 lost last year. This enormous increase is due to the opening of the Ottendorfer Branch. The Library Committee makes the remarkable statement: "If we had half a dozen such branches, suitably equipped, in other parts of the city, we should be well assured that each Library of 8000 or 10,000 volumes would have a yearly circulation of about 100,000." Of the Ottendorfer library it is said: "At first the German books were taken out in greater number than the English; but this has been reversed, and the English circulation is steadily increasing."

New York Free Public Library.—About seventy-five leading citizens of New York have been invited to become incorporators of a society to provide for this library, most of whom have consented, and Mr. Adolph L. Sanger is drafting a bill which will soon be presented to the Legislature. His desire is either that the Reservoir at 40th to 42d streets, on Fifth Avenue, being demolished, the Library building should occupy a part of the ground, leaving a fine park about it, the cost of the building to be defrayed by taxation extending over a term of years, or that one corner of the land shall be sold to provide funds for its erection on the other, leaving an entrance to Bryant Park between. Or, under the plan for investing part of the sinking fund in real estate, the Library might become the security. Books would require later and separate provision. Mr. Sanger suggests that the building should include halls for teachers' meetings, and possibly for the Board of Education, and otherwise centre the public school system.

Trinity Coll. L. Added, 1639; total, 26,044; 1095 v. issued to students, and 299 by members of the faculty and others. More shelf room is needed.

Notes.

Baltimore. The Enoch Pratt Free Library was opened Jan. 4, with addresses by the Mayor, the donor, the Governor, the Librarian, and others, and an oration by Hon. G. W. Brown.

Berlin. There are now 23 volksbibliotheken, with almost 100,000 volumes, which in the course of the last year have been loaned 331,723 times to the users of these collections. The readers belong to every class.—*Illustrirte zeitung*, Dec. 12, 1885.

Berlin. A résumé of an article, 24 columns long, in No. 137 of the *Neue Preussische (Kreuz) Zeitung*, on the Royal Library at Berlin, is given in the *Neuer anzeiger* for Oct., pp. 299-303.

Bodleian. The curators of the Bodleian have had an enumeration made of the entire contents of the library. The total number of volumes (excluding 1625 volumes of Bodleian catalogues) was 432,417, of which 26,598 were ms., and 405,819 printed. Besides these, there were 1424 ms. pieces waiting to be catalogued and bound in volumes, and 24,988 periodical parts and pamphlets also waiting to be bound. And, further, there were those ordnance-maps which cannot be bound until the survey of their respective counties or towns is completed. The Bodleian building itself contained all the mss. and 306,105 printed volumes. The number of these which a visitor sees is very small. Even readers see less than a third of the total contents of the building. The select open cases, from which the readers themselves take books, contain 7004. In the first ten months of this year the number of items added (counting parts, separate maps, etc.) was 37,325; of these 26,291 came in under the Copyright Act, 4955 by gift or exchange, 4978 were new purchases, and 1101 were second-hand purchases.

Brooklyn L. Issued in 1881, 92,310; 1882, 95,294; 1883, 103,669; 1884, 106,948; 1885, 108,950. W. A. BARDWELL, *Ass't. Lib'n.*

Frankfurt a. M. The library established under the name of "American Public Library," which contained about 5000 v. and pm., is to be extended to include works relating to other lands.

Philadelphia. The *American* has published a series of articles by H. P. R., entitled "Some private libraries." They are: H. H. Furness's "Shakespearean collections," July 4, p. 137-8; Mayer Sulzberger, Aug. 8, p. 216-7, 1885; Dr. Isaac Norris, Jr., Oct. 17, p. 377-8.

Philadelphia. Arthur Biddle and W. A. Platt are credited with originating a plan for the establishment of a free popular and scientific library, which is now assuming definite shape. Articles of agreement, to which the names of prominent subscribers are appended, have been drawn up by G. W. Biddle and W. H. Rawle. The government of the institution is vested in trustees, who represent the commercial and professional interests of the city. The cost of mem-

bership in the association will be \$100, the payment of which entitles the member to a vote for the election of trustees. The building will be on Broad Street, near the City Hall. It is intended to raise \$250,000. Of this amount \$60,000 has already been subscribed. Edwin N. Benson has given \$5000. — *Phil. telegraph*.

Rochester, N. Y. December 21, at the meeting of the Academy of Sciences, the purposes and methods of the Reynolds Library (founded by Mr. Mortimer F. Reynolds) were explained by Messrs. F. A. Whittlesey, trustee, and W. A. Borden, librarian. Mr. Whittlesey thought that the circulating library would not be open before a year from next January. Eventually the library would become such a one as that of the Boston Public Library, where if any standard book is ordered and is not on hand, it may be obtained in about a week's time. The speaker paid a glowing tribute to the founder of the "Reynolds Library," referring to his uniform generosity, which even exceeded all needs of the committee. He said that the trustees had not decided whether the library would be kept open on Sundays, and that the library would be open to every one as a reference library, but that the circulating part of the library would be open to residents of Rochester only.

Rome. The Reale Società Romana di Storia Patria has voted a considerable annual sum to the increase of the Biblioteca Valleccliana, founded by the Oratorians.

Catalogs and Classification.

BIRMINGHAM P. L. Three nos. of the Birmingham reference library lectures have been published at 1 d. each: no. 1, G. J. Johnson, Books on law and jurisprudence; no. 3, W. Hillhouse, the botanical books; no. 6, W. Kenrich, On some art books in the library.

The HARVARD UNIV. bulletin for October continues the Kohl collection of early maps, the index to the maps in the publications of the Royal Geog. Society, and the Dante collection; and gives an Index of reference lists and special bibliographies included in periodical and other publications of recent date (8 p.) in continuation of Mr. H. J. Carr's list in the LIBRARY JOURNAL of Feb., 1883, and the Boston P. L.'s in its Bulletin of Sept., 1883, but covering a wider range than either.

POORE, Ben. Perley. Descriptive catalogue of the government publications of the U. S., Sept. 5, 1774—March 4, 1881. Compiled by order of Congress. Wash., 1885. 1392 p. Q. See note on p. 4 of this issue of LIB. JOURNAL.

Queries.

1. *Alphabetizing.* What rule is to be followed in alphabetizing names of Government departments and subdivisions, as regards preference between, f. i., "Department of the Navy" or

"Navy Department"? Is the legal or authoritative designation of these departments fixed and consistent? f.i. "Post Office Department" or "Department of the Post Office"? — B. P. M.

[It is a convenience to alphabet by the catch word (Navy, War, etc.), even if one does not write that word first. — C: A. C.]

2. *Alphabetizing*. When a Government institution, such as the U. S. Entomological Commission, or the U. S. Geological Survey, has an independent existence, should it be entered under U. S. as a main heading, and *Geological Survey* as a subordinate heading, or should it be entered under its name as a whole? f.i. U. S. — *Geological Survey* or U. S. *Geological Survey*. — B. P. M.

[The former. The latter method would throw the department among titles of societies not governmental, as U. S. *Academy of Arts*, and among titles of books. — C: A. C.]

3. *Alphabetizing*. Abbreviations should be alphabetized as written, not as if written in full (Cutter to the contrary, p. 71, § 185), except M. and Mc. — B. P. M.

Bibliography.

BOOKS for architectural students. (In the *Builder*, Nov. 21, 28, p. 707-9, 741-2.)

Notes on the character of the principal books recommended by the Royal Institute of Architects to students preparing to pass the examination for the associateship of the Institute.

LEGRAND, Emile. *Bibliographie hellénique ou description raisonnée des ouvrages publiés en grec par des Grecs au 15^e et 16^e siècles*. Paris, E. Leroux, 1885. 2 v. 8°. 60 fr.

Notes.

Mr. R. BLISS has prepared "references for the course" of study on the political history of America of the Unity Club of Newport, R. I.

MR. BUXTON FORMAN has sent to press the first and principal part of "The Shelley Library: an essay in bibliography." "The publication of this work, announced some time ago," says the *London Athenæum*, "has been delayed on account of the difficulty of obtaining some of the less important data, without which the author has been unwilling to part with his ms., although the greater portion has been completed some two or three years. The first part deals mainly with the *éditions principes* and their reproductions. The book is not a catalogue, but, while giving full bibliographical details of all the books in chronological order, contains much information from original sources, including even unpublished letters of the poet."

Robert H. LABBERTON'S "Historical atlas" (N. Y., MacCoun, \$2) has a very brief "carefully selected bibliography of English books and magazine articles."

Publisher's Notes.

SUBSCRIBERS to the LIBRARY JOURNAL are asked not only to renew their subscriptions promptly for 1886, but to obtain additional subscriptions from library trustees, book collectors, and others who should be interested in library work. Each new subscription counts one vote for library co-operation. The *Literary news*, monthly, and the *Index to Periodicals*, quarterly, will be furnished to all subscribers for 1886 in the one subscription price of \$5, making practically a club of three valuable periodicals.

THE *Co-operative Index to Periodicals*, the quarterly continuation of Poole's, is the most important piece of co-operative work in which the members of the American Library Association are now engaged. They, including the general editor, give their services; the actual cost of paper and print to the publisher is something over \$600 per year, aside from office and indirect expenses. The subscription price is \$2 per year. It is estimated that to do the work separately in manuscript would cost each library nearly \$300 per year. To insure the permanence of this undertaking, large libraries ought to subscribe for ten copies (\$20) per year and small libraries two copies (\$4) per year, in addition to the copy they receive with the LIBRARY JOURNAL. They are asked to do this, and to obtain subscriptions from persons other than librarians, who may be interested. The publisher does not undertake to continue the Index beyond 1886, unless the extra subscriptions cover the manufacturing cost.

THE publisher of the LIBRARY JOURNAL was asked at the Lake George Conference to prepare estimates for the cost of catalogue cards for new and standard books, on a co-operative basis. He has received since that time requests from only two libraries for the information, and the co-operative attempts in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, and especially in the *Index to Periodicals*, have been so inadequately supported that there is little encouragement to go forward. He would, however, be glad to hear from any libraries which wish to take part in the scheme, with mention of their particular desires in the matter and their limits of cost, with a view to determining practically whether anything can be done. If sufficient encouragement is given, a report will be made through the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

THE Report of the Transliteration Committee (4 pages and 3 plates) has been separately struck off, and can be had of Mr. C. A. Cutter, Boston Athenæum, for 5 cents a copy, and the postage. The Report and papers on Government Publications (10 pages) have also been separately printed and can be had from the LIBRARY JOURNAL office at 10 cents a copy, which includes postage.

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